

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: ori@juno.com (Ori K Mizrahi-Shalom)
Subject: [6182] "38 Special" Schematics and copyright
Message-ID: <19961211.014708.4375.7.ori@juno.com>

Jerry Parker has done a marvelous job arranging all the information regarding the "38 Special" and other topics on the web page.

Jerry has actually redrawn the schematics to fit on a single page, and that's not a two minutes job...

Many thanks for this effort, Jerry.

I'd like to add one word of caution.

The posted schematics represent an early version of the design.

We have implemented numerous changes and additions, in order to improve the final kit.

If you decide to build the circuit, as it is currently posted, you may have to "fine tune" some of the circuitry.

There was also a question regarding copyrights.

I'm sure that the copying was done with good intentions but we must understand that QRPp and QQ have the first right of publication.

Also, as explained above, the design and the information are not updated. It is not a good idea to have old versions "floating" around. The Norcal web page is available to all and is currently the only place you will find updates.

TNX

ORI AC6AN

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: dwink@juno.com (Daniel C Winkler)
Subject: [6174] 38 Special circuit
Message-ID: <19961210.203902.4927.0.DWink@juno.com>

Dear Design Gurus:

I haven't seen schematic of 38 Special yet and already ideas and concerns pop into mind! I love it!

Questions:

1. The VX0 required increasing the current through the colpitts oscillator transistor in the NE602. That greatly increases the power in

the tank, and increases the drive to the mixer. I had heard that the NE602 doesn't like to be overdriven. Does this large local oscillator input degrade the mixer portion of the '602? (On my 40-niner I took great pains to lower the oscillator power during receive by switching in extra [parallel] resistance for R7 via a diode to the keying line. Waste of effort?)

2. Can anyone explain to me how "pulling" really works? I have read everything published in the ham literature, and no one explains how it really works. How do you model such a thing on a simulator (I have a program called NOVA, but recently downloaded SPICE 6.0- haven't tried to run it. ARRL Designer too expensive!)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Ken Newman N2CQ <103464.1355@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [6205] 38 Special: Frequency?
Message-ID: <961211153739_103464.1355_IHI83-1@CompuServe.COM>

Hi Ori and All,

I am confused about the posted frequency on the 38 Special. In the order announcement shows 10.112 to 10.132 estimated. Since the QRP calling frequency of 10.106 listed in QST, and most of the DX being lower in frequency than that, it seems to me that we are going to miss the good stuff on 30 meters other than working each other. One reason given was that we don't want to be out of the band but 12 Khz at the bottom is the best part! Why is that really?

72/73 de Ken, N2CQ
Woodbury, NJ
NORCAL 1770 NJQRP 21

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: wa5whn@juno.com (Jay D Miller)
Subject: [6200] 6 & 10 meters QRP/ Wed. Dec. 11th/SW-USA
Message-ID: <19961211.082845.4551.0.wa5whn@juno.com>

QRP-Lers,

6 meters was open for a short period of time last night. Also, had a very nice cw chat with K06VD (599) , and heard others from the SoCal area (Sporadic E) on 10 meters. The band was open (11, Dec.), past 0400 UTC.

Every Wed. , 0200 - 0300 UTC, is the Albuquerque, NM 10 meter Net on 28.342 MHz (USB). Quite a few People within & outside the Continental USA were checking in. The paths to South America were amazing. No QRN, very little QSB.

As N5ZGT tells us "Keep checking 10 meters". Well, if 10 is open, listen to 6 meters too. Blew the dust off of the HR 2510 (Uniden). Even 29.6 MHz FM was open. Sounded like a group of locals. Hopefully, it will stay this way for the 10 meter contest this weekend. My trusty Uniden HR-2510 & I (I may not be as trust worthy ;-)) will be there. Where are the Novice/Tech QRPers hanging out on 10 meters ? 6 meters ?

72...Jay, WA5WHN
Grid Square: DM65qd

PS Are You ready for FYBO in Feb. ? I am :-)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>
Subject: [6220] 8044ABM and Those Darn Viruses
Message-ID: <9612111841.AA13392@voder.nsc.com>

It has just occurred to me that there is an elegance in the so called "GOOD TIMES" and "PENPAL" viruses.

The virus is not in the message itself (as we all know). The virus is the propagation of the warnings. And in it's complete definition, THIS message as well.

The virus preys on the vulnerability of so many of us that are good samaritans. We want to make sure noone is hurt by the virus so we warn as many as we can.

As my friend Raul KB0WSU points out, it's the only type of virus that is transferable from computer to human.

QRP:

For those that are looking for an 8044ABM, I have a few left over from when I was kitting them with a board. I don't have any boards but will send the part in the

US48 for \$17. This is about what I payed for them plus a little for shipping.

```
=====
7.3 de Michael N7MR          miker@cc.com          michael@frii.com
      http://www.frii.com/~michael
      QRP-L #126      Norcal #857      CQC #180
=====
```

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "Hidehiko Komachi" <ja9mat@nsknet.or.jp>
Subject: [6192] Add the fancy QRP shack
Message-ID: <199612111335.WAA06359@po.nsknet.or.jp>

Hi fellows,
I added new photo on my web site today.
It is the fancy QRP shack of JA0CQ0/QRP, and
it is the original photo of JA-QRP Handbook's cover.
Please enjoy!

** de,JA9MAT,Hidehiko KOMACHI,E-Mail;ja9mat@nsknet.or.jp ***
W.W.Web.Site;http://www.nsknet.or.jp/~ja9mat/Index.htm
Member of JA-QRP#036,G-QRP#9128,Alaska-QRP#025,QRP/L #761...

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: JessQRP@aol.com
Subject: [6155] Address Change
Message-ID: <961210200625_1187260770@emout10.mail.aol.com>

Hi All,

I am moving my Email to MSN. In the future please send all mail to

JessNOTFI@msn.com

Thanks!

Jess NOTFI

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>

Subject: [6219] antenna data transfer

Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.961211123448.17312C-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

Over the months, I receive occasional requests to model out a proposed antenna. As time permits, I am glad to do so, if the pile does not get too high. However, it usually takes a couple of tries to get all the info necessary to replicate an existing or proposed antenna, either in reality or as a model. So, let me suggest some guidelines for sending anyone antenna information.

The basics: please specify the materials (to be) used: wire size/tube size, and the material (copper, aluminum, steel, phosphor bronze). Also specify the frequency of interest, not just as 40 meters, but 7.1, 7.15 MHz, etc. Some antennas that present low SWR figures on one end of a band do not do so well on the other. Also specify anything significant about the terrain of the antenna. Does it significantly slope? Is it cluttered with either tall trees or man-made objects. All this background says something about whether a given antenna can be reproduced in another ham's situation.

The dimensions: please be sure to give the overall shape of the antenna, how it is oriented, and the lengths and height above ground of each wire length in it. There are lots of ways to do this. One might specify a vertically-oriented loop as bottom wire x feet above ground and top wire y feet above that, or one might specify heights above ground for each wire. For inverted Vees, give the wire length and the distance from center point or the wire length plus the angle of slope--in either case with the high and low points specified. Closed antennas and antennas with angles usually omit something important, because there are two important sets of dimensions: the length-width-height of the wires relative to each other, and the height of the assemblage at all points above ground.

Feedpoint: specify just where in the assembly the feedpoint is located, especially if not automatically given (as in a center-fed dipole). This usually will be so many feet from some easily recognized point or at an end or at a corner or midway between certain points. It is also useful to say what kind of feedline is (will be) in use (50-ohm coax, 300-ohm parallel line, 450-ohm parallel line, etc.)

Additional information: There is a lot of info that is useful only for some kinds of antennas. For example, if you use a ground plane or counterpoise, specify how it is run and whether above/below ground and by how much. If you have a sloper running from a tower, give some specifics about the tower, since it can affect the sloper's pattern, even if not physically connected.

With this information, builders can build your antenna or proposed antenna and modelers can model it correctly. The more complete we are the first

time round, the less confusion we shall have to correct the 2nd through 10th time around.

In subsequent discussions on line, try to start each message with a brief but accurate antenna description so that someone who missed an initial exchange can still know exactly what is under discussion. For example, just to say a Vee and then make some claims about it might leave the reader confused, since we talk about both inverted Vees that are variants of resonant dipoles and also Vee beams several wavelengths long on each leg.

Obviously, this is just a suggestion, but hope it is useful.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Dan Keen <70731.722@compuserve.com>
Subject: [6180] Banning
Message-ID: <961211073207_70731.722_EHM57-1@CompuServe.COM>

sri in advance to all, maybe too much XMAS wine, but here goes...

> I started the group but like a child it has grown and continues to grow...
> dit dit de QRP-L #1 SIG Chuck Adams

So a young fellow who has become a ham from reading this list might write:
"How I became a ham was because of my DAH DAH dit dit".

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: wb2vuo@juno.com (William K Hibbert)
Subject: [6154] CB to 10 Meter Conversions in "73 Amateur Radio"
Message-ID: <19961210.195548.4679.0.wb2vuo@juno.com>

Awhile back, I mentioned the "CB-T0-TEN" conversions published in "73 Amateur Radio" magazine back in the late 70's and early 80's. I finally found a listing of the articles, and they were available as reprints from "73" as of 1990. Here's a list of the reprints available as of November 1989. IF anyone up in at "73" in Peterboro can confirm these, it would be appreciated...

May 1977

- 1- Bandplan and Crystal Info
- 2- Conversion Data

July 1977

- 3- Radio Shack TRC-47
- 4- E. F. Johnson Messenger 123A
- 5- Hy-Gain 670B

December 1977

- 6- Antenna Suggestions
- 7- Radio Shack TRC-11

February 1978

- 8- The Publicon I

July 1978

- 9- How About SSB Conversions?

August 1978

- 10- Radio Shack TRC-11 and TRC-74

September 1978

- 11- Radio Shack Realistic Mini 23
- 12- Hy-Ranger 681A (Hy-Gain)

October 1978

- 13- Kraco KCB-2310B

November 1978

- 14- Lafayette Telsat SSB-75
- 15- Radio Shack Realistic TRC-452
- 16- CB Walkie-Talkie Conversion

January 1979

- 17- Sharp Model CB-800A
- 18 SBE Sidebander III and Pace 123A

June 1979

- 20- Lafayette SSB-75 and SSB-100

November 1979

- 21- Royce I-655
- 22- Johnson Viking 352

January 1980

- 23- CB to 10 FM - Part I

February 1980

- 24- CB to 10 FM - Part II

March 1980

- 25- More Talk Power for the TRC-11
- 26- Sears RoadTalker 40

April 1980

- 27- Penney's SSB Rig

June 1980

- 28- The Poly-Paks 40-Channel CB Board

July 1980

- 29- The Cobra 132
- 30- New Life for SSB CB Rigs
- 31- Double Your Channel Conversions

August 1980

- 32- On Ten FM

September 1980

- 33- Put That Hy-Gain CB Board to Use

March 1982

34- Peaking & Tweaking Hy-Gain Boards

May 1979

July 1982

19- Midland 13-882C & Other PLL Rigs

35- CB to CW?

December 1982

36- Max Modulation for CB Conversions

February 1983

37- Beef Up Your CB - CW Conversion

38- Add Digital Readout to Your
Conversion

As of the 1989 date, a single reprint was \$3.00 and \$1.50 each thereafter. I am sure that the prices have changed if they are even available still. Does "73 Amateur Radio" have an Email address?

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, QRP-L #582, scQRP 40, ARRL LM, TS (WNY Section)
Trustee, KB2YTW/B 10 Mtr Milliwattting Beacon (250 mW @ 28.2870 MHz)
"In the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp...FN13ac"

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Martin Squicciarini <msquicci@vf.lmms.lmco.com>
Subject: [6189] CMOS II Super Keyer - Update
Message-ID: <32AEB233.1901@vf.lmms.lmco.com>

First I would like to thank everyone that responded. I received a copy of the article and I started to build the kit the other day. For those of you that have build the kit I have a few quiestions. The person that sent me the article (Nov 90 QST) added two caps C11 and C12 parralling the crystal (there is a spot on the board for them also). The kit included 6(six) 0.001 caps, one smaller (too small to read its value) a disk cap (I can't remember the value) and two caps labled 27. Are the two caps labled 27 the ones around the xtal? I used the six 0.001 caps for C2-C7. I eliminated C8 since I will not be using a pot for speed control. What about C1 and C9? Are they suppose to be 0.001 or some other value. TIA

--

--

Martin Squicciarini 73 - NR3Z
Work -> msquicci@vf.lmms.lmco.com

home -> skitch@resuba.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "Laura" <sputnik@imt.net>
Subject: [6223] comments to the list
Message-ID: <199612111927.MAA28738@cu.comp-unltd.com>

Gang:

The ham who offended me with his letter this morning has apologized and assured me he meant no harm. I don't want to make light of what was a derogatory letter, but we all make mistakes and don't communicate as well as we would like. I will forget this and move on. I'm sure if I ever unintentionally offend anyone here, they would do the same for me. Ladies and Gentlemen: the Thread has left the building! hihi

73
Laura
KJ7UN
QRP-L # 790

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Pete Rossi <wa3nna@resuba.com>
Subject: [6179] CORRECTION QRP BEACON REPORT
Message-ID: <199612110600.BAA04855@resuba.com>

I hope this is the only one but is a severe error in the QRP BEACON report that I just posted.

This was actually caused by a typo.. sort of..

It seems that I accidentally entered WB0WQS's power as 200 microwatts instead of 200 MILLIwatts. The power gets entered into a spreadsheet in milliwatts and my mind must have been thinking 200 milliwatts but my fingers were thinking 0.2 WATTS which got entered and was interpreted as .2 milliwatts or 200 microwatts.

Therefore, We did *NOT* have a 5 million mile/watt report. WB0WQS should be listed under the 200 milliwatt group as

				miles	miles/watt
WB0WQS	Kelly Ellison	Aurora MO	NOV 30 2250	1010	5,050

I double checked everything.. I don't know how this slipped though.

I thought 5,000,000 miles/watt seemed a bit high but we all know that
THERE'S NO LIMIT TO QRP! :-)

If there are other significant errors reported, I will post an entirely
revised report, but I wanted to get word out about this major mistake ASAP.

Sorry for the inconvenience.

Thanks to Kelly, WB0WQS for pointing out my 5 million mile mistake. He
did add that he had additional "QRM" from a 2-year old "sqawking away"
in the background :-)

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA
wa3nna@resuba.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: SCN User <nwqrp@scn.org>
Subject: [6222] Dec. 1996 NWQ Newsletter Online!

Hello QRP gang!

Yes, it's true, this month's newsletter is now available
on the Web at the URL found below ...

<http://www.scn.org/IP/nwqrp/nwqnews.html>

So aim your browsers to the NorthWest and enjoy!

--Brian, KV9X

i	NorthWest QRP Club	-----
==[scn]==		--0---/\--
) (nwqrp@scn.org	/^\^/ ^^\
/_/_\	http://www.scn.org/IP/nwqrp	--NW QRP--

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Ken Newman N2CQ <103464.1355@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [6203] DX QSL Routes
Message-ID: <961211153742_103464.1355_IHI83-3@CompuServe.COM>

QSL Info requests found on DX Packet on Frankford Radio Club node:

3C5A -> N6ZZ

V47WD -> WZ8D

EA8EA -> OH2MM

de Ken N2CQ

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996

From: Charles Cashion <ccashion@spdmail.spd.dsccc.com>

Subject: [6224] errata

Message-ID: <199612111949.NAA27891@spd.dsccc.com>

Guys,

Sorry for the bandwidth. Maybe the reply should be taken off line.

I think I just found a couple of errors in W2GOM's article in the latest issue of Communications Quarterly (vol.6, no.4, Fall 1996).

Thought I would see if W2GOM had an email address, so I looked him up on QRZ. ... No luck. ... Well, the editor is Terry Littlefield, and C.Q. lists his call as KA1STC. Maybe he has an email address. SURPRISE! KA1STC is issued to Terry Northup!

Now what?

Thanks in advance for any help.

Charles Cashion, w5isz, Plano (Dallas is our closest suburb) Texas

ARRL NorTex#116 NorCal#1320 QRP-L#76

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996

From: Mike Boice <kd0fx@worldnet.att.net>

Subject: [6176] Explaining solar indices

Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19961211052348.00685758@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>

As is usually the case, this has probably been explained here before, but I was asleep at the keyboard. Could someone tell me, in short, simple terms, what these indices mean, and how to apply them to our everyday QRP life? This is a cut-down version that I pulled off an NOAA web site, by following a link from a QSL routing web site that Larry, W1HUE/7, mentioned a day or two ago.

Prepared by the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, NOAA, Space Environment Center

Twenty-seven Day Outlook
Issued 03 Dec 1996

UT Date	Radio Flux 10.7 cm	Planetary A Index	Largest Kp Index
10 Dec 96	70	10	3
11 Dec 96	70	10	3
12 Dec 96	70	10	3
13 Dec 96	70	8	3

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
Subject: [6210] Fifty States in Fifty Days
Message-ID: <199612111650.JAA18894@dancris.com>

>Return-Path: <owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
>Date: Tue, 10 Dec 1996 12:39:54 -0700 (MST)
>Reply-To: ki7mn@dancris.com
>Sender: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
>From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
>To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
>Subject: Fifty States in Fifty Days
>X-Sender: ki7mn@dancris.com
>X-Listprocessor-Version: 8.0 -- ListProcessor(tm) by CREN

>
>I have just added Mike's note to my page for your reference. It's at
><http://www.dancris.com/~ki7mn>.

>73,
>Bob KI7MN
>NorCal #1221 ARCI #8918 Qrp-1 #271 CQC #274 AK QRP #30 ARRL

>
>

This is Not the FSFD effort, but a follow-on to it. Sorry for the confusion,
and I'll get it straightened out shortly.

73,

Bob KI7MN

NorCal #1221 ARCI #8918 Qrp-1 #271 CQC #274 AK QRP #30 ARRL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Bill Myers <bmyers@destin.nfds.net>

Subject: [6160] FOX: Got Him, But it was Rough!

Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19961210202636.2edfef92@destin.nfds.net>

Dan is really working hard tonight, and not catching very many. I sat there listening to him RIGHT AT MY NOISE LEVEL for over an hour. I tried to call him a couple of times, but he dissapeared into the noise level. Heard a KC5 station in OK talk to him. Finally, around 0212 I got him loud enough to carry on a short exchange, he was only 229 here, just above the noise (really he was in it, I just had everything, even my ears, tuned for his voice). Got him.

I've never worked so hard for a contact in my life. BUT at least I heard him, that's more than I've had with some others lately...

No points for me, but it'll help him!

Hope he gets a few more...

72/73

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996

From: George Doster <doster@umr.edu>

Subject: [6202] FOX: No fox. But band was good

Message-ID: <199612111538.JAA19695@hermes.cc.umd.edu>

Well, no fox for me last night. :(Never heard a peep. I gave up around 2:45 and went downstairs. Guess what's on TV??? Disney's The Fox and the Hound!!!! Oh well. I watch the movie with my 2 year-old. At least I saw a fox of sorts.

Back upstairs around 4:00. Called CQ on 40m. NADA. Listened around. Boy these guys are to fast for me. I need practice!! Check out 80m. Band sounds good. Call CQ. Bam! get a reply and have a short QSO with 4-land. Wow! that makes two CW QSO's ever, and both at QRP. Finish up and sign. Bam! another 4-lander. Another QSO. Number 3! This is getting easier! FUN FUN FUN! Well it was late so I shut down. I also checked 10M around 4:00 or so. I didn't hear anything. Just as well as I have no ANT for 10m.

I will, however, be in the 10m contest this weekend. Remember the 10m rigs that Radio Shack had a few years back?? I got one. Pull the knob and you got 5 watts SSB out. I'm going to set up on the front porch with a converted 11m vertical, car battery, and radio. Should be fun. I wonder if

I can get a temperature mult. if it's freezing out?

See ya in the 10M test on CW and SSB!!!! (QRP of course)

Jay

George Jay Doster	doster@umr.edu	N0PMY
QRP-L #739 WAS: w/c 1/0	EMPS w/c 2/0	
Doolittle, MO	Phelps County	37 56' 25" N
		91 52' 51" W

Disclaimer: All spelling mistakes are my own and not Webster's.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: camqrp@cyberg8t.com (Cam Hartford)
Subject: [6170] Friday the 13th Fox
Message-ID: <199612110413.UAA10843@key.cyberg8t.com>

Fox Hunters -

How about a Friday the 13th Fox Hunt?

Well OK, it'll really be Thursday evening the 12th, but if you think in terms of UTC or Zulu or Greenwich, it will be Friday the 13th. Anything can happen.

Personal scheduling forces me to change my stint to Thursday night. I'll be on from 0300 to 0500, which translates to 7 PM to 9PM, Left Coast time. Frequency on or about 7040, probably leaning a bit to the low side to avoid prevailing SSB. Fingers crossed that the neighborhood QRN generator takes the night off.

Finally rented and watched "Independence Day" last night. CW Forever!

See you there,

Cam N6GA

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>
Subject: [6218] FSFD/FSFM

Message-ID: <199612111753.KAA21122@dancris.com>

OK, thanks to Jim I got this sorted out.

On my page, you will find references to TWO efforts to get qrp WAS...one in fifty days, presented by Jim Hydzik K3QIO, and another by Mike Gipe K1MG. The latter is a follow on to those of us who might not be smiled upon by the propagation gods and can't get it fifty days.

Either way, it should be a lot of fun, and I'll try to keep Jim's and Mike's updates posted as well.

73,

Bob KI7MN

NorCal #1221 ARCI #8918 Qrp-1 #271 CQC #274 AK QRP #30 ARRL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996

From: "Craig O. Smith" <CSMITH@CMSUVMB.CMSU.EDU>

Subject: [6226] Getting Started

Message-ID: <961211.140807.CST.CSMITH@cmsuvmب.cmsu.edu>

Hello to all!

I have been parusing the "MASS" amounts of mail that I receive daily from this server, and I have come to one conclusion.... I've got the bug!! I only have one problem.. or maybe several...depends on who you ask.. I need someone to tell me what I need to get started. Such as what Rig? Kit? Antenna type? and so on... I currently hold a Tech+ ticket and have yet to make my first contact on CW. I tried during last summers Field Day to no avail... So if anyone would be willing to take a few minutes,, and do the "ELMER" thing and take me by the hand.. I would appreciate it.. Also keep in mind my funds are limited.. TIA.

73's Craig/KB0VRS Warrensburg, Mo.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996

From: Bob Edwards <rbe@atlanta.com>

Subject: [6161] H/W problems too..

Message-ID: <32AE5234.6F75@atlanta.com>

Chuck, K5FO wrote

>..... Not to mention the hardware problem that
> cost me an entire weekend..... ;-)

```
Installed 586-133mhz OK.
Downloaded new vers Acrobat to read *.dpf files OK.
Moved some files arround to make more room ???
Installed & viewed some *.pdf files OK.
Installed & played with a 4 language talking dictionary OK.
Netscape failed to start at invocation !!
```

The 586-133 cut the time for a single long ant model pass from 178 sec to 25 sec. Very pleased with that.

Thanks for QRP-L.

```
W4ED x_AE4CA nr Atlanta @EM73wt
...."QRP", more from less....
:EMPS OS0s=47 STATES=23/4 DX=??
```

```

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This is the first time this story has been told.

My brother got his novice license in the summer of 1960. Since we were

the same age we did nearly everything together, but even though radio was 'cool', music had a greater interest for me (familiar thread?). Every once in a while he'd come blasting into the room while I was practicing and blurt out about having worked some country I'd never heard of and then dart back the den to work more 'DX'. After a few months of this I got hooked, started following the build up of countries he'd worked, and was coping code at about 10 WPM, then even faster. He let me work a few stations all on my own and by Christmas of '60 I was ready to start my own list of countries.

New Years eve was tragic. Dad and 'bro' went over Chestnut Ridge (Summit Mtn) towards Uniontown and didn't make the turn on the snow at the Old Watering Trough and rolled the new white Lincoln. Dad was OK, but I was now the only son of the family. It was a weekend around the middle of January and dad asked what to do with the radio stuff. I pushed in the Tap-a-line power strip and started listening with dad along side. I don't know when he left the den, probably after the first couple contacts, but I must have worked 10 stations before taking off the headphones. KN3QIO was back on the air.

We were twins and the only name difference was our middle initial. The license had his initial on it but the wheels of adolescence were turning. In late spring mom took me to the FCC testing session in Pittsburgh, PA and all the paperwork was filled out without a middle initial including the assignment card you got in the mail for your appointed test date and time. At that session I passed the technician test and the rest is history. I have to thank my dad's cousin, the late W3GJY/W7LLC for having kept quiet about what was going on. I worked 'uncle John' several times before he died and wondered if he ever told anyone the story. Guess not.

Not much else to tell except that I have wondered, if I became as good of a musician as a CW operator, where would I be today. Different reflector, perhaps. Perhaps not. Glad I'm here.

Happy Holidays, cradle the ones you love, Jim K3QIO Delaware

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Timothy McFadden <106400.1616@compuserve.com>
Subject: [6184] How I became a Ham. (Long)
Message-ID: <199612110706_MC1-CB5-25C1@compuserve.com>

Just to add to the thread,

My earliest recollection is of taking a walkie-talkie apart and installing it in my football helmet. [Dad REALLY loved that one :-)] After that I

knew that electronics was in my future. I just did not know it was going to be a long time before it was realized. I paid my dues on "CB" as the "Kentucky Irishman" and after the CB wars took most of the wind out of my sails and I went on extended QRT. In November 1976 I raised my right hand and became one of many wearing the "pickle suit" for Uncle Sugar. I was headed for new heights, (literally) by becoming an 05E Airborne Radio Operator with the Jumping Junkies of the 82nd Airborne Division. There I met a ex-Special Forces soldier who just happened to be my Platoon Daddy and a Ham. His name is Willie D. Mitchell KA4ISQ. I saw him sitting in the back of a jeep mounted Ratt Rig AN/GRC-160 working someone CW. I was impressed but just had not been truly bitten by the Ham bug yet. That was done during the Military Operation("Provide Comfort") which assisted the Kurds in Northern Iraq after the Gulf War. My tent partner was Mark G. Besch NS1V and he had brought along his rig and was working DX on a sloping Dipole. This was also my first experience hearing a pileup! It was quite a rush!. During the 3 months that we were there a friend of Marks, Paul Bolduc in Nashua , (sri I don't have his callsign) arranged for several copies of "Now you're Talking" and Test manuals for Novice and General to be delivered to us in the fields of Southern Turkey. After that it was just a matter of time. I tested at Wiesbaden Germany in Jul 1994. Novice, Tech & General in one session and became KB2RLB. My DL call came later, DA2TF. I really love this hoppy and being apart of such a great and diverse bunch of guys and gals.

Hope I didn't put anybody to sleep.!!

73 to all

Tim DA2TF / KB2RLB Munich Germany
QRP#668

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Michael D Wyman <Michael_D_Wyman@ccm.ch.intel.com>
Subject: [6230] Info on the Sierra . . .

Hi all,

Could someone tell me where I could find all of the errata on the Sierra radio before i begin building it?

Thanks es 72 de Mike W1DRY

P.S.

Great band opening on 10 Wednesday nite!!!!

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [6198] Maritime province PHONE net on 7.025???
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9612110911.A2244-01000000@w3eax.umd.edu>

I know that one can often hear SSB on the low end of 40

- 1) during SSB contests, such as CQ WW, and
- 2) during natural disasters

WHY were these people camped out today at 1200z from the Canadian Maritime provinces (Dartmouth, N.S.) running a LSB net on 7.025???

Do they not realize that there's LOTS of bandwidth above 7.050??? Just because you CAN transmit somewhere does not mean you should - especially when there's no emergency of any kind afoot.

Anyone want to go and ask them (politely) to move up the band???

* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 *
*** 6m 75 grids worked on 8 watts *** HF 138 cfmd * QRP-L #147 ***
** QRP ARCI #9054 ** DXCC/WAS/WAC *** 100% dipole powered HF/6m **
* 301-549-1022 h / 301-982-1015 w *** 145.490- 147.225+ PL 156.7 *

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [6190] My long journey into ham radio
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9612101636.E302-01000000@w3eax.umd.edu>

it started innocuously when I was about 7 - I blew up my very first LED.

WOW! Look at that! Put an LED across a 9v battery and it lights up! Oh wait, now it doesn't anymore...why not??? Well, better go get another one...

They were \$1.99 per 20 at Radio Shack. I didn't exactly know about forward voltage drop yet :)

Anyway, I built many of the "200-in-one" projects, and where I didn't understand, went to ask Dad, who's an Electrical Engineer (as am I). He studied for his ham ticket at age 13, but never got it, as he was a poor

kid in Brooklyn, and couldn't afford equipment.

I got a shortwave - a Knight kit that I still have - at a yard sale when I was 10. Got to listen to Radio Australia at 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings - cool! But how was it possible???

Then at 13, I found a CB for a buck at another yard sale, and paired it with a Radio Shack whip, which I ALSO still have. I got to TALK to people - mostly locals, though, and wow, they were pretty crude...and rude...

When I hit 15, I was dragged over to the home of one of Dad's co-workers, Chuck, W3GQY, who was using his Clegg 2m mobile rig in his driveway. He then proceeded to show me his HF station, and proceeded to work someone - in another state - and I was hooked.

I went to the Gaithersburg IBM ARC Novice class and after 6 weeks had passed the code as well as squeaking by with a 70% on the written exam...

Being in High School, I was busy plotting my revenge on the people I didn't like.

Actually, I paid them no attention, and instead studied really hard, giving radio a 2 year hiatus. Prepared for college, I bought a TS-520S station at the Manassas, VA hamfest in June 1986, and re-learned the code; in the next 8 weeks, I was up to 13+ wpm and went off to the U of MD. My first day there, I ran into a bunch of guys up on the W3EAX tower. There was to be a test the following Saturday, and I went and got my Tech, in addition to 20 wpm code (adrenaline).

Then I got the General in Oct., Adv. in Nov., Extra in Dec., and became a VE in January after I turned 18.

P.S. The electrical engineering degree has served to explain many of the things I have seen in radio - puts a practical spin on something very theoretical.

* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 *
*** 6m 75 grids worked on 8 watts *** HF 138 cfmd * QRP-L #147 ***
** QRP ARCI #9054 ** DXCC/WAS/WAC *** 100% dipole powered HF/6m **
* 301-549-1022 h / 301-982-1015 w *** 145.490- 147.225+ PL 156.7 *

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: lujce@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [6164] N/T+ Fox report

Message-ID: <96Dec10.222231-0500est.65736-11755+14@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Dan,

Heard KK4KF work you, but you were just barely there. By the time your signal improved to the point that I could hear that longggg trailing "dah" on your K (go ahead) a WB2LJG? fired-up on the freq and buried you. I did hear the KC5 in Tulsa OK work you. Some day I will catch a fox :-)

73
N3VXI

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "Jess Gypin" <JessNOTFI@msn.com>
Subject: [6162] New Email address
Message-ID: <UPMAIL04.199612110256570618@msn.com>

Hi all,

This is just a test to make sure that I can still get out!

Please direct all corospondance to the new Email address on MSN. We will see how this one does!

Best
Jess NOTFI
JessNOTFI@msn.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Jason Nathaniel Artz <jartz@umich.edu>
Subject: [6152] Pixie II
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.95.961210192436.11005A-100000@galaga.rs.itd.umich.edu>

I apologize if this has been brought up before, but I haven't been able to read the list in a while. I saw something on the web about a QRPp transciever kit called the Pixie 2. The price is right - but I want to know, how is this rig? How does it compare to the 49er? I'd probably operate on 40 meters. Is it 'legal' as far as emissions go and all that? How are the ears? I suppose forking out the 10 bucks and seeing for myself isn't out of the question, but any comments would certainly help.

Thanks in advance,
Jason Artz
AC6XA

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Pete Rossi <wa3nna@resuba.com>
Subject: [6173] QRP BEACON SUMMARY REPORT
Message-ID: <199612110432.XAA04384@resuba.com>

The following is a summary report of the 40 meter QRP beacon which ran over the weekend of November 30 - December 1 1996

This time, beacon reports were received from 45 different QRP-L stations plus 3 reports via QSL cards.

This beacon test made use of the same automatic power sequencer used in the previous beacon sessions. This sequencer permits the transmitter to be set at 6 different power levels. Custom software which drives it simply does the following:

```
DO FOREVER
  READ THE TIME OF DAY
  SELECT AND SET THE TX POWER LEVEL (based on minutes past the hour)
  SEND CW MESSAGE FOR THE SELECTED POWER LEVEL
END
```

That's about all there is to it. The power controller has 5 relays which select one of 5 pots used to set 5 different power levels. The 6th power level is produced with with all 5 relays off (uses internal TX pot). Very "low tech" but effective.

The controlling computer is a home-built Motorola 6800 system that I designed and built back in 1979 (pre-PC days). The software is written in 6800 assembly language. It includes provisions for keying the transmitter at each power level for calibration, setting the power level and code word messages for each level, and setting the CW sending speed.

It was interesting to note that for this beacon, there were fewer reports

submitted than the last 80 meter beacon, but about the same as the last 40 meter beacon. But at the same time, the number of reports for receiving the 200 and 630 microwatt codewords were greater. This could be due to either better band conditions (lower noise levels) or simply you guys are getting better at digging out those weak signals .. or some people made some lucky guesses. See my comments below about codeword guessing.

Unfortunately, due to lack of time I have not had a chance to really analyze all of the reports in extreme detail to see if there were any patterns, etc. Due to the rather wide variation of receiving conditions, it is difficult to compare one report to another. A few stations reported peaks at about the same time both days. Most of the reports were received on Saturday.

All in all, reports were received from 17 states + VE3 and VE7

east/northeast : ME NH NY PA MD + VE3
south : AL SC VA NC GA
central/south : TX NM
central/north : OH MI KY
central : MO CO
west : VE7

Where was W6 and W7 ?

Many stations reported severe QRM from QSOs in progress on the frequency. I need to find a better frequency, but no matter where I put the beacon there is bound to be QRM at one point or another. Next time I will probably go higher in the band... and hope for the best. I am open to suggestions.

Once again there was a wide representation of rigs and antennas. I wish I could have included more details with the report .. but I would have never finished it.

If anyone is interested in reading all of the details of the reports that were submitted, of which many include multiple reports, and rig/antenna info, I have them saved to a file that I can forward to you. It is about 75K.

Mother nature kill the beacon...

I had planned to let the beacon run through Sunday evening and turn it off before I went to bed.. but Mother Nature and/or the local power company beat me to it by loosing power about 10:50 PM Sunday evening. So, that was that for the beacon. The power was only off for about 10 minutes but after 48+ hours of beacon enough was enough..

Many thanks to all who participated. Certificates confirming reception of your lowest power level codeword received will be available. Jerry, W4UK (ex W4UKU) has once again offered to print them and promises something extra special this time. I hope we can get them out before the end of the year .. if other holiday activities don't get in the way.

I will also provide a special beacon QSL card if you send me one along with an SASE.

I wish I could have replied to each report individually but the volume vs. time available did not permit it. I tried to keep up with them on Saturday but once I stated falling behind there was no catching up.

And now a comment about codewords...

Since this beacon was announced as being a "Thanksgiving weekend" beacon, I thought I would pick a set of codewords that followed some sort of a Thanksgiving "theme" .. and "food" seemed like a logical choice. It seemed like a harmless idea at the time but since the beacon, it was brought to my attention, that having a set of related codewords (ones that are not entirely random) could have some influence on the ability to partial-copy and then possibly guess at some codewords. In otherwords, if a single letter was missed on one of the lower level codewords, then based on the common theme of the codewords already copied, it could make it easier to guess the missing letter(s). I have no idea if this actually happened to any significant degree but it certainly is a possibility.

In light of this, I will make it a point that in any future beacons, the codewords are kept as "random" as reasonably possible so there will be no need to question the likelihood of any significant amount of codeword guessing in the future.

Red Alert! I am considering using 5 letter codewords next time.

And now the report details...

- - - - -

=====

40 METER QRP BEACON SUMMARY REPORT

2150z Friday November 29 - 0400 Monday December 1 1996

Solar flux / A-index
11/30/96 70 / 5
12/01/96 88 / 4

7021 KHz

WA3NNA/B

16 Northwood Road, Newtown Square, PA 19073

15 miles west of Philadelphia
FM29hx

Lat. 39 59 6 N
Long. 75 22 46 W

Newtown Square coordinates from QRP-L (used in all calculations below)
(I am approx 1 mile east of this location)

Lat. 39 59 12 N
Long. 75 24 05 W

Transmitter power: The transmitter power was controlled automatically; set at 6 different levels, 2 minutes at each level, according to the following schedule. A different codeword was sent at each power level. Power output levels 2mW thru 2 watts were measured with an OHR WM-1 wattmeter and a 50 ohm dummy load. The 630 and 200 uW levels were measured using a TEK 453 scope and dummy load. All other power levels were verified with the scope.

----- minutes past hour -----					power	-reference level-	
						(100W)	(2W)
:00-02	:12-14	:24-26	:36-38	:48-50	2 W	-17 dB	0 dB
:02-04	:14-16	:26-28	:38-40	:50-52	200 mW	-27 dB	-10 dB
:04-06	:16-18	:28-30	:40-42	:52-54	20 mW	-37 dB	-20 dB
:06-08	:18-20	:30-32	:42-44	:54-56	2 mW	-47 dB	-30 dB
:08-10	:20-22	:32-34	:44-46	:56-58	630 uW	-52 dB	-35 dB
:10-12	:22-24	:34-36	:46-48	:58-60	200 uW	-57 dB	-40 dB

TX antenna : Full size 40 meter inverted-vee, coax fed,
center @ 50' ends @ 30' running north/south

I have listed the stations copying the codeword grouped at each power level
and then listed in order of miles/watt.

Congratulations to the following who successfully copied the codeword "NUTS"
at 200 microwatts! Good job!

Special Congratulations to Kelly, WB0WQS! FIVE MILLION MILES PER WATT!!
Wow! Is that a record??

CALL	NAME	LOCATION	DATE/TIME	MILES	MILES/WATT
WB0WQS	Kelly Ellison	Aurora MO	NOV 30 2250	1010	5,050,000
K8IQY	Jim Kortge	Felton MI	NOV 30 ----	472	2,360,000
KC40	Roy Boggs	Prestonsburg KY	NOV 30 1534	427	2,135,000
AE4IC	Bob Kellogg	Greenboro NC	NOV 30 1800	361	1,805,000
WZ2T	Rick Sherman	Malone NY	NOV 30 1943	340	1,700,000
AA4XX	Paul Stroud	Raleigh NC	NOV 30 1710	340	1,700,000
KD8JN	Randy Phelps	Canton OH	NOV 30 2111	319	1,595,000
AA1IK	Ernie Gregoire	Canaan NH	NOV 30 1647	307	1,535,000
WB8UGG	Brad Mitchell	Youngstown OH	DEC 01 1859	286	1,430,000
WA1QVM	Joel Malman	Concord MA	NOV 30 1358	271	1,355,000
N2JJ	Jim Janack	Galway NY	NOV 30 1500	221	1,105,000

and Honorable Mention

W4AOS	Bob Binkley	Vienna VA	NOV 30 2338	124	620,000
-------	-------------	-----------	-------------	-----	---------

Bob reported hearing the codeword "NUTS" but was not sure of the power level
and he reported it as 2 mW. He requested that he only be given "credit" for
2 mW but I wanted to at least acknowledge that he *did* hear the codeword at
200 microwatts.

The following successfully copied the 630 microwatt codeword "CORN"

CALL	NAME	LOCATION	DATE/TIME	MILES	MILES/WATT
K4NK	Les Shattuck	Greenville SC	NOV 29 1220	522	828,571
K8KJ	Jim Kerr	Columbus OH	NOV 30 1808	396	628,571
VE3DNL	Glen Leinweber	Hamilton ON	NOV 30 1410	319	506,349
N3WXI	George Stratemeier	Penn Hills PA	NOV 30 1400	237	376,190
N4EHL	Bob Cronau	Hamton VA	NOV 30 1408	210	333,333

The following successfully copied the 2 milliwatt codeword "FORK"

CALL	NAME	LOCATION	DATE/TIME	MILES	MILES/WATT
K50N	Gary Cochrell	Albuquerque NM	DEC 01 0050	1735	867,500
VE3JC	John Cumming	Delaware ON	DEC 01 1411	375	187,500
AD4ZE	Warren Lewis	Cary NC	NOV 30 1742	343	171,500
N4NTO	Ambrose Owens	Tarboro NC	DEC 01 2115	305	152,500
KC1FB	Jim Francoeur	Norwalk CT	DEC 01 1933	130	65,000
W4AOS	Bob Binkley	Vienna VA	NOV 30 2338	124	62,000
W2GUM	Tony Colaguori	Long Branch NJ	DEC 01 1530	78	39,000

The following successfully copied the 20 milliwatt codeword "SOUP"

CALL	NAME	LOCATION	DATE/TIME	MILES	MILES/WATT
AC5AM	Bob Stolzle	Natchitoches LA	NOV 30 1005	1138	56,900
AA4PC	Craig Tillman	Swainsboro GA	NOV 30 2106	639	31,950
W4UK	Jerry Flanders	North Augusta GA	NOV 30 1616	574	28,700
WB4LZQ	Kim Campbell	Piedmont SC	DEC 01 2100	532	26,600
N2GO	Jim Skalski	Cheektowaga NY	NOV 30 1928	266	13,300
K2ASM	Dick Wolff	Lake Hopatcong NJ	DEC 01 1728	78	3,900

The following successfully copied the 200 milliwatt codeword "COOK"

CALL	NAME	LOCATION	DATE/TIME	MILES	MILES/WATT
K0FRP	Al Dawkins	Aurora CO	DEC 01 0200	1553	7,765
KA5T	Larry Wise	Georgetown TX	NOV 30 0502	1406	7,030
W5TFB	Jack Bryant	College Station TX	DEC 01 0303	1340	6,700
W5HNS	Henry Schneider	Passadena TX	NOV 30 0651	1324	6,620
K4JPN	Steve Ray	Robbins GA	DEC 01 2050	683	3,415
W3IRZ	Mike Branca	Conyers GA	DEC 01 2238	645	3,225
KD8ZG	James Grandle	Reynoldsburg OH	DEC 01 1726	392	1,960
KV2X	Tom Jennings	Rochester NY	NOV 30 1751	239	1,195
KQ4AL	Grover Tolliver	Occoquan VA	NOV 30 ----	134	670
K4CGY	Jim Owen	Mt Airy MD	NOV 30 1935	102	510
W3WZ	Bob Hirsch	New Hope PA	DEC 01 1915	35	175

The following successfully copied the 2 watt spot signal codeword "FOOD"

CALL	NAME	LOCATION	DATE/TIME	MILES	MILES/WATT
VE7SL	Steve McDonald	Mayne Island BC	NOV 30 2325	2403	1,202
KB0PZD	Bruce Barley	Wichita KS	NOV 30 2101	1187	594
N4SO	Ken Brown	Mobile AL	NOV 29 2341	980	490
WB0CLD	Bill Launer	St Charles MO	NOV 30 1814	808	404

W4DU

Ken Evans

Lilburn GA

NOV 30 ----

640

320

Please forgive me if I missed anyone.. or at a particular level.. or otherwise messed up. I had close to 100 e-mail messages of data to sift through. Thanks to all (most) of you who followed my suggested reporting format. It sure made things easier. Please send me any corrections.

Future beacon info...

Paul AA4XX and I have been throwing around the idea of running two beacons in parallel later in December (or January). If all goes well, we may try this the weekend following Christmas, New Years day, or the weekend following. Stay tuned to QRP-L for future announcements.

I will be sending out e-mail with certificate information in a few days.

- - - - -

Until next time, 73, happy holidays and happy listening,

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA
wa3nna@resuba.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "M. Monninger" <markem@primenet.com>
Subject: [6169] QRP Computer
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19961210210632.00ec0850@mailhost.primenet.com>

A few (several?) weeks ago, someone posted a note about the pocket computer he was using to do logging, store info, skeds, freqs, etc. I don't remember who posted it but I'd appreciate hearing from him. I'm thinking of asking Santa for something like that and it sounded like a pretty nifty little unit. So, if the person who posted the original would drop me a line, I'd appreciate it, or if someone else could point me toward the relevant archive, that would be appreciated too.

73 & happy holidays to all..... Mark AA7TA markem@primenet.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "Bob Smith" <bsmith@msn.com>
Subject: [6158] QRP Wattmeter
Message-ID: <UPMAIL01.199612110126520312@msn.com>

Just out of curious, is the QRP wattmeter in the QRP classics handbook close to the OAK Hills WHM-2 meter?, if not what is the difference? Thanks

Bob Smith, N3FTU

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [6235] QRP\QSY\FISTS
Message-ID: <199612112342.SAA188360@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Hello Gang,

In working towards my FISTS CW club "Century Award", (worked 100 FISTS members), I have been running into folks with fine CW ability. I have had the pleasure of working a guy in Maine who has a wonderful touch on his bug.

Working a guy like that enhances my copying speed and comprehension. My faith in "Buggability" is somewhat restored. Just before writing this, I listened to a ham who was using a bug and on 20 meters at a spot very close to the QRP calling frequency. I can only guess at what he was sending, CQ I think, but badly fractured. Wow!

Please don't take this as a complaint, it isn't. I am not a perfect code operator, by any means. I am at a loss however, to have copied little more than jibberish in this case. No one answered him.

Yes, I do remember the thread about some folks having physical limitations and still operating CW and having an ability to copy far in excess of their sending. So, let's not hash that up again.

My point here is that FISTS is a CW club that promotes good CW skill, sending and receiving, as well as courteous behavior on the air. This is indeed a noble cause and worthy of our attention as QRP'ers. If we act with this way, others will notice. The FISTS club advises good manners, even when others don't use them or at worst, are rude.

Good copy is the watch word of the club, not speed, that comes with use.

In another QSO, I asked a fellow to QSY to another frequency and he could not do it. This brings up a point of curiosity for me. Using a rig that has no digital read out, I assume that if a QSO is in progress and we both know the frequency, because it is the Fists calling freq., and we decide to QSY, then I also assume the following.

If I asked a ham to QSY to say 14.055, I would say "QSY 55 ? BK", and he would say "ok cu there bk". We would both move down a bit, (no read out), and as the QSY asker, I would call "His call sign de my call sign, K". As the QSY askee, he would listen and return my call.

How does that sound to you?

I am amazed at the folks who can't do a simple QSY. QRP'ers don't seem to have much trouble doing this.

I am proud to be a Fists member and some day hope to be as good a CW operator as I can be. Since joining, I have spent even more time, proportionately, doing CW.

Hope to cul on xxx.058, any band.

73 de AA1IK
Ernie

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: bruce muscolino <w6toy@pop.erols.com>
Subject: [6168] Radio Building Seminar
Message-ID: <199612110354.WAA06424@smtp1.erols.com>

Gang,

I've followed, and commented on, the thread currently running about designing and building radios. As you probably know I'm the technical chairman of FIDM, Four Days In May, the premier QRP technical event of this and any year. I am planning to run a seminar on schematic/circuit layout software one evening, given that I can guarantee at least 6 to 10 attendees. There may be an extra charge. Now, how about this idea...

On Friday morning, maybe, have one of our QRP manufacturers come in for say, 3 to 4 hours, and run a class in building radios. He'd use either one of his transceiver kits or a receiver kit. You'd pay for the kit and the seminar would be free. At the end of the seminar you'd have a complete working radio. I think this can be done in a four hour period. Also, you'd have the designer/manufacturer available the entire four days to answer questions about your rig. I'd need at least 6 participants. You'd have to pay in advance, etc. Can I get a show of hands? Actual confirmed attendance?

Thanks, and 73,

--

Bruce -- W6TOY/3

Still QRP, Really! (c)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996

From: "Robert T. Cronau Jr." <brcronau@widowmaker.com>

Subject: [6196] RCP-2

Message-ID: <m0vXpoA-00013cC@widomaker.com>

I downloaded the program RCP-2 for control of Knwd TS 570 D. It is in compressed form and a note said that I needed the file HAM30.com to decompress or open the RCP-2 program. Can someone tell me where to find that file? Thank you

Bob,N4EHL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996

From: wylde@nccn.net (Grover Cleveland, K7TP)

Subject: [6201] Sierra Noise - the quest for a solution continues

Message-ID: <v02130501aed48539ea24@[205.139.74.202]>

I wonder if someone could send me (mail or fax) just the single schematic page of the receiver section for the Wilderness version of the Sierra. I need to convert a club Sierra to the Wilderness style AGC to see if that solves my receiver noise problem.

thanks in advance,

Grover K7TP

fax 916 478 3850

20892 Bald Ridge Drive

Penn Valley CA 95946

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "David Kreinberg" <kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com>
Subject: [6193] SOMETHING GOOD IS GOING ON!
Message-ID: <96111118503.AA850316865@smtpgw.ccgate.dl.nec.com>

Gang:

As some have noted here, we're getting lots of really neat activity lately.

Last night, 12/10, I worked 20 meters until almost 9 pm local time and the band was still hot when I pulled the plug.

10m has been cooking also, however, I didn't hear a peep on 15 or 17m.

Don't know if it's a touch of Sporadic E for 10m, but I'm not complaining. Hope condx continue for the 10m contest this weekend.

BTW - listened in on 160, 80, and 40m too. They were the nicest (read QRN free) I've heard in a LONG time.

Happy Holiday Hamming to all!

73 de Dave NR3E
nr Dallas, TX
QRP-L #25

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Ken Freedman <n1qqv@cshore.com>
Subject: [6156] Special Event Station
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19961211011523.0067d3a8@cshore.com>

Hi Gang,

The Special Event station commemorating the 75th anniversary of the

first transatlantic amateur contact is on the air now, a day ahead of schedule. A replica installation in Greenwich CT on 1.813 using W1BCG (my club's call) will be on the air through the weekend. W1BCG is as close as you can get to 1BCG which was the call sign of the original station. It's not a spark xmitter, but you can't miss the raspy drifting signal!

For those too far away, or without 160 meter capability, other stations with more modern equipment and using the W1BCG callsign will be on the air over the weekend on 160 thru 10 meters, including novice bands. QSL Info is in the December QST, or right here:

SARA
PO Box 4225
Stamford, CT
06907-0225

GL es 73, Ken

Ken Freedman
AKA: N1QQV/QRP

VE, EC Madison CT

Living Proof That, "You don't have to be a blonde to be light headed!"

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>
Subject: [6211] Those darn viruses.
Message-ID: <9612111704.AA08033@voder.nsc.com>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "Laura" <sputnik@imt.net>
Subject: [6212] To post or not to post
Message-ID: <199612111710.KAA17494@cu.comp-unltd.com>

Hi gang!

I am really sick of this thread, and do not want to propagate it further, however, I have received a letter today from a list member that told me I should not have posted my story of How I Became A Ham. He found it did not relate to QRP and I had no business posting it on the list. He suggested I

find another list to belong to if I wanted to tell everyone my "personal stuff". I did not want to further embarrass this gentleman by quoting him or naming him, but I was very upset from reading his letter. I don't know why he chose to attack me...since so many of us responded to that thread, and we obviously all enjoyed it. I want to take this time to personally thank the many of you that responded to my request of what we may and may not post. Thanks to all of you, I will not let this gentleman's opinion keep me from participating. I suggested he write to Chuck if he had a complaint. If any of you also received a similiar letter after posting your story of "How I Became A Ham", please write to me personally.

Thanks, everyone!

Laura
KJ7UN
QRP-1 # 790

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "Michael A. Gipe" <mgipe@reliablemeters.com>
Subject: [6232] TS-570D initial impressions
Message-ID: <199612112249.QAA32440@multi13.netcomi.com>

I received so many messages asking about the TS-570D after I mentioned it in a post to the list that I figured I would post a quick review.

I have had the rig for about two weeks now and have managed to log just a few hours of operation on 40 meters, including a few foxes.

I had not been in the market for a new rig, since the Icom IC-735 and IC-706 I have do a pretty good job for fixed and portable use. They have caught over a dozen foxes with a G5RV. I was thinking seriously about getting a new DSP filter to help pull the weak ones out of the noise, so I borrowed two from a local ham, a W9GR and a JPS NIR12. I used these for about a month and had just about decided to get a Timewave DSP599zx (which is similar to the NIR12 but has some nicer features for CW) when I came across an ad for the new Kenwood 570D. It had lots of nice features.

I went down to the local HRO and spent about two hours playing with it and comparing it with other rigs. (Support your local ham radio store! Those who have recently lost a local store know that mail order has disadvantages.) After two days of rationalization, I returned to the store and took one home.

The attraction of the TS-570D is that it is a small package with a whole bundle of goodies inside. These include an internal automatic antenna

tuner, antenna selector switch (two antennae), internal memory keyer, selectable output power down to 5 watts, internal audio DSP filter, and a very nice large LCD display. The whole thing runs on my 12 solar power/battery supply.

I had a few concerns about any new rig. How well would it handle large adjacent signals? I tend to work stations which are in the microvolt region and am often bothered by local kws. How easy would the rig be to use? Do you need to go through three menus to change the keyer speed like on the IC706? How sensitive was the receiver? Could I still hear the really weak ones that the IC735 does a good job pulling in? How much phase noise did the rig generate? Was the DSP filter good enough that I wouldn't need to buy a separate box? Would the tuner have sufficient range to cover non-resonant antennas?

The answers are all positive.

The adjacent signal rejection/intermod performance is very good for a rig in this price class. It is not as solid as the TS870D based on my comparison at the store. (As an engineer, I'm not sure why the TS870D does as well as it does.) It is also not as good as the top of the line rigs like the Yaesu FT 1000. It does compare favorably with the IC-735 and is much better than the IC706. I have successfully used the rig to work very weak stations near an S9+50 db station, so it works fine for me. Please note the comments about IF filters below, however.

Receive sensitivity is about the same as the IC735, which is very good. Internal noise actually seems to be a little less with the TS570, but the comparison is limited by the strange 40 m propagation and QRN conditions we've experienced in the last two weeks.

The DSP filter works well. It performs nearly as well as the NIR12 and has the same functions. CW filter bandwidths are 50, 100, 200, 300, 400, 600, 1000 and 2000 Hz. If you have the 500 Hz IF filter installed, it automatically switches that in for bandwidth settings of 600 Hz or less. The spectral shaping noise filter works very well on SSB. The correlation noise filter works as well as any of them do on CW if you set the correlation interval to the short setting. Don't end up using it much, though.

The IF vs AF filtering issue that has been addressed on the list recently is easily demonstrated on the TS570D. If you plan on doing any QRP CW work, you NEED the 500 Hz IF filter to keep out adjacent junk before it hits the audio filter. The DSP cleans out the rest and has very steep skirts. With the 16 bit AD/DA converters, I have not noticed any quantization distortion. It sure is nice to have the DSP filter built in so it tracks the sidetone and only requires one control. The AGC can NOT be turned off -- there are two settings, slow and fast -- so you gotta have

that IF filter.

One thing that is missing is a manually tunable notch filter.

The antenna tuner is surprisingly good. Although spec'ed to the usual "matches any load from 49.5 ohms to 51.2 ohms", it tunes up anything that I have on any band except 160. Not all the manual tuners I've tried can do that. The only weirdness is that if you do try to match something impossible, the TS570 will sit and crank away forever trying to tune it. After a while it starts beeping to let you know something is wrong, but you have to stop it. There is no way to manually tune the tuner which might be useful for SWling because it will only tune while transmitting inside a ham band. You can however, turn the tuner off or set the rig to bypass the tuner in receive mode.

It is very handy to have the built-in antenna switch especially since the rig saves separate tuner settings for each antenna and automatically switches the tuner along with the antenna. It makes A/B antenna comparisons very easy. The only limitation is that the stored settings cover a wider frequency range than I would like, and these ranges are not user settable. If you have a narrow tuning antenna, plan on hitting the 'retune' switch whenever you QSY any distance because the rig probably won't automatically switch in a new setting.

Kenwood really got it right with the user interface on this one. A long list of menu selections set up the operating parameters of the rig. However, all of these are set and leave 'em functions. The functions that you normally use all the time are quickly accessed without the menu. Many of these use a single knob with individual pushbuttons to select common functions such as power, keyer speed, and filter bandwidth. It's harder to describe than it is to use. Fast contest style operations are a breeze -- unless you dive in without a minute to familiarize yourself with the radio -- refer to the thread "Fox - an apology". The rig has both RIT and XIT. It also has a button to monitor and set your transmit frequency in split mode in addition to the usual swap method -- very handy. The LCD imitation meter is very nice and has high resolution. The peak reading feature (like a VCR's level meters) is neat. I like this meter as well as any moving needle meter.

There is no separate receive antenna input for the Beverage fans though there is an output to drive a second receiver for the two-headed contest folks.

The power can be easily adjusted from 5 watts to 100 in discrete steps. I measured mine on 40 meters with an OHR WM2 and it puts out 3.5 watts at the 5 watt setting and 7.5 watts on the ten watt setting into a 50 ohm Bird dummy load.

My first impressions are very positive. The IC735 is up for sale. I don't need it anymore.

The TS-570 is a lot of rig in a small package for a very reasonable price. I hope that Kenwood is successful enough that they don't feel they need to sell radios in truck stops anymore.

When comparing the 570 with the 870, don't forget to add the cost of the 500 Hz filter and the high stability reference oscillator (which many people won't need anyway). The 870 is also much larger physically.

The usual disclaimers apply. Wish I did make money from these!

Mike K1MG

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "Timothy R. Gordish" <105020.2634@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [6197] Unintentional QRP
Message-ID: <199612110943_MC1-D05-B6E7@compuserve.com>

Gang,

Got on 40m SSB today for the first time since my recent upgrade to General. Got a 58 signal in LA aboard the Queen Mary when I checked into the "Fish" net. They were real friendly. After making the contact I noticed that I had left the Mic Gain turned down to the position that puts out 5 watts on CW. I'm not sure if this means that I was only using 5w SSB, but I bet I was unintentionally QRP!

Anything goes:^^)

73 de Tim
KB9LGJ Yuma AZ

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Gary Aylward <gaylward@servomex.com>
Subject: [6215] VERY LONG - How I became a ham
Message-ID: <83A8923101E02400@c2gate.tcom.co.uk>

Here's my contribution from "across the pond", be warned, it's LONNGG!
Delete now if uninterested!

Being 30 years of age I guess I fall into the "younger" category of members of this list. Being first licenced in 1994 I definitely fall into the category of "newer hams".

Like many on the list I grew up playing around with batteries, bulbs and bits of wire etc. I was interested in radio but never had the =
encouragement and/or money to do anything about it. In my early teens I started to get into electronics and decided to become an electronics engineer. With parts scavaged from scrap transistor radios and books =
from the local library I started building bits and pieces. Nothing I can remember, and nothing RF (shame).

By my mid-teens music had taken hold of me and I built my own guitar amp (I still have it) one summer holiday. I also had my first experience of HF radio in the form of CB which at that time had not been legalised in the UK (oops!)

Then I was 18 and it was time to go to Polytechnic to study for that EE degree. Just before starting Poly' I met my wife, her uncle was (still is) a ham, and we saw him from time to time. Even visited =
his shack, very interesting, but the penny didn't drop!

Four years of study later I achieved my ambition of becoming an =
electronics engineer and started work. Two of the guys in the office were hams and one occasionally brought in some piece of old military kit he was restoring. Still the penny didn't drop!

Then, in 1992 a friend at work who was a Scout leader asked if I =
would like to get back into Scouting (I had been a Scout when I was younger). I agreed to help him out and started reading his copies of "Scouting" magazine. (Don't worry, this IS relevant, hang on in =
there!)

One day I stumbled across a feature on Jamboree On The Air and thought it would be fun to organise a station. OK you've guessed the ending already! My wife's uncle, Derick G4XKF, and friends ran that first JOTA station and I spent most of my time logging and listening and =
learning lots between organising the Scouts.

I was hooked and we were encouraged by our JOTA station success.
After our second JOTA I decided I really would finally get round to =
getting a licence. With a degree in electronics engineering the =
theory was not too difficult, so I set about teaching myself the rules
and regulations and signed up for the written test at the local =
Technical College. It costs =9C50 just to sit the UK exams! =

I passed with flying colours and in August 1994 I was on the air (VHF
only) for the first time as G7SRS/P, appropriately from a Scout camp
site. My station consisted of a secondhand TH-27. Yep that's it, just
the HT. It is still my only VHF rig!

Another JOTA passed, but this time I could operate (under supervision)
the JOTA station, what a buzz! I decided I really needed to learn
the code, and set about learning the characters a few at a time by
repeating them over and over again in my head as I cycled to and from =

work! Then I got hold of a copy of G4UXD's "Supa-Tuta" program, which
is a wonderful program for learning all aspects of the code, including
the UK "QS0-style" test. It even copies CW from your key (it's *VERY*
fussy).

(Usual disclaimers, I am just a very satisfied customer, and would
recommend this program to ANYONE - it goes up to 100WPM! Yes 100 !!!)

The PC and my cycle trips to work were my only CW training, so I =
practised 'til my wrist ached (?!) and with the G-series callsigns
coming to an end I took my chance and put in for the CW test at the =

London Amateur Radio Rally in March this year. (Another =9C18)

My practice had paid off and I passed the (12WPM) test, sent off the =
paperwork and duly received G0XAN issued at the end of March. =

(M-series calls were issued from April 1st).

Having put so much effort into learning the code I decided I might as
well keep it up, and I am now totally hooked on it. Apart from JOTA
I operate almost exclusively CW QRP, but before I took the test I =

always thought it would be far too difficult and I would only use =

phone. How wrong I was!

Well, that's the story so far (at last he's finished!), as band condx and my station improve, I hope to work some of you on the list.

I think the moral of all these stories is that kids that are interested may not take the hobby up straight away, but they'll be back some day when time, money and opportunity come together. The only thing we can provide is the opportunity, so "help a prospective ham today"!

Vy 72 and thanks for reading this!

Gary G0XAN QRP-L 860 GQRP 9120 RSGB

QTH: Portslade, nr Brighton, E Sussex on the sunny (?) S Coast of England

"Homebrewers do it with whatever's to hand!"

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996

From: talljazz@teleport.com (Dan Presley)

Subject: [6236] Wed.Fox?

Message-ID: <v01530511aed4f90e23ac@[206.163.124.155]>

Am I asleep at the switch, or is there supposed to be a fox on tonight (0300-500UTC 12/12) local date Dec.11? Was there a post on here about a change in date?

Dan N7CQR

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996

From: Art Searle <w2nra@netusa.net>

Subject: [6187] [Fwd: [DX] Sunspot minimum in May 96?]

Message-ID: <32AEAB2C.3691@netusa.net>

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----6E422D7C2E20

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

--

Art Searle, W2NRA [ex WU2K], ARRL Life Member, QRP-L #524

QRP ARCI #9123, DXCC MX & CW HR, NRA Benefactor Life Member

NRA Certified Firearms Instructor, Fight for your rights!
Join the NRA now! <http://www.nra.org/membership/membrapp.html>

-----6E422D7C2E20

Content-Type: message/rfc822
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

Return-Path: <owner-dx-outgoing@ve7tcp.ampr.org>
Received: from ihnp4.ve7tcp.ampr.org (207.102.83.5) by NetUSA.Net with smtp
(Linux Smail3.1.28.1 #1) id m0vXgs9-001vsWa; Wed, 11 Dec 96 00:06 EST
Received: from ve7tcp.ampr.org (root@ve7tcp.ampr.org [206.75.238.33]) by
ihnp4.ve7tcp.ampr.org (8.8.3/8.8.3) with ESMTP id UAA27568; Tue, 10 Dec 1996
20:58:28 -0800 (PST)
Received: (from listserv@localhost) by ve7tcp.ampr.org (8.8.3/8.8.3) id VAA12313
for dx-outgoing; Tue, 10 Dec 1996 21:40:57 -0700 (MST)
Message-Id: <9612111237.AA0080@localhost>
Mime-Version: 1.0
From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Jim Hydzik <congress@magpage.com>
Subject: [6166] Re: "38 Special" - Freq Coverage
Message-ID: <199612110247.VAA06816@alaska.magpage.com>

Hi Ori,

On the east coast the DK0 beacon on 10.144 Mhz is the defacto propagation standard. When it's up, you can usually work most of Europe with 5 watts. When it's not decernable, turn the beam somewhere else :) That is the driving force behind the desire to adapt a VFO to the 'Special'. For \$25 no one expects everything but lots of us are ready to play.....you know, build that bridge to the design contest century.

Thanks for the hints. We all appreciate the efforts and dedication to perfection,

72 Jim K3QIO

>The upper half of the band cannot be easily covered with the standard
>crystals in the kit, although you could pull the 12 MHz oscillator a bit.
>Of course
>then you have to re-design the offset circuit...
>Jim, K3QIO suggested a VFO.
>Look for a circuit that covers 2.100-2.150 MHz for a full band coverage.
>Initially
>I planned it as a mod, but given that CW takes place mostly in the lower
>25 KHz

>(which the "38 Special" easily covers) I haven't put any more effort into
>it.
>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: BParkes@aol.com
Subject: [6233] Re: 30 meters dead or alive
Message-ID: <961211183444_1589162391@emout06.mail.aol.com>

Howdy, Not sure about 30 mtrs, have not heard much in the last week or so,
have been getting on the air a little later in the evening, but 40 mtrs is
short haul (LA from here in San Antonio, TX) but 6 mtrs was booming, sounded
like a contest, lot of folks exchanging locations. Heard WI, AZ and SC and
worked TX with 5 watts and a low dipole. Things are looking up!

73 Bruce KA2ZGW San Antonio, TX (but you knew that)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Jim Hydzik <congress@magpage.com>
Subject: [6167] Re: 38 spcl + 38-30 VFO? RX Design LONG
Message-ID: <199612110314.WAA08625@alaska.magpage.com>

Hi Bob,

Right you are about the Lowe. An actually the Icom 725 is not too bad
and better than most of the rigs around. Probably because of fewer mixers.
Part of the problem the manufacturers face is having to shift PLL registers
quickley to provide for fast CW switching times. When they focus on the
receiver and eliminate the TX, such as the Lowe rcvrs, the PLL filters can
run and track with cutoff frequencies right at the VCO outputs and
capacitor-surpress the data lines a lot heavier. That really reduces crud
going to the mixers and quiets down the internal noise. Big Difference.

Life will get better in the DDS field, but we might have to do it :)

72 Jim K3QIO Delaware

>Good discourse. I will have to add, however, that the UK manages to design
>digital vfos/double conversion radios that have very few digital artifacts on
>the signal. Namely the Lowe series, and particularly the HF125 Europa, and of

>course the new AOR (but made in the UK) 7030.
>
>Lots of SWLer's buy these things ONLY because the signals are still clean at
>the noise floor. (to chase tropical band signals for the most part).
>
>I always find it interesting that ICYAEWOOD just doesn't place any value on
>audio quality, even at the R9000 level. Of course our "made in USA" Wakis
>Johnson 1000 has been plagued with digital artifacts, but unlike our neighbors
>to the East, they have been re-designing as fast as they can go to minimize
>the digital crap.
>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: ori@juno.com (Ori K Mizrahi-Shalom)
Subject: [6209] Re: 38 Special: Frequency?
Message-ID: <19961211.082859.4375.2.ori@juno.com>

Ken,

As I wrote earlier, lowering the frequency is just a matter of substituting one inductor.
We use a 1N4004 diode as a varactor diode. It was never intended to work in such application, and the manufacturers have very little concern regarding the reverse-bias capacitance of the device, unlike production varactor diodes like MVAM108 and others.
I have an idea what this capacitance looks like, but it might be way higher than typical on some production batch.
Can you imagine your kit working fine but your tuning range is say 10.085-10.105 ?
With the way it's set now, all the coverage is in-band and all the rigs are likely to have a 10 KHz overlap with ANY OTHER UNIT.
As I said, you can measure the frequency coverage of your own radio and adjust the series inductor in the VXO circuit (among other things...)
I hope this explains the reasoning (hey, I could have said that Doug bought the cheapest inductors he could find... hi hi...)

73

ORI AC6AN

On 11 Dec 96 10:37:39 EST Ken Newman N2CQ <103464.1355@CompuServe.COM> writes:

>Hi Ori and All,

> I am confused about the posted frequency on the 38 Special.

>In the order announcement shows 10.112 to 10.132 estimated.

>Since the QRP calling frequency of 10.106 listed in QST, and most
>of the DX being lower in frequency than that, it seems to me that
>we are going to miss the good stuff on 30 meters other than working
>each other.

>One reason given was that we don't want to be out of the band

>but 12 Khz at the bottom is the best part!

>Why is that really?

>

>72/73 de Ken, N2CQ

>Woodbury, NJ

>NORCAL 1770 NJQRP 21

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996

From: lve1@inel.gov (Larry V East)

Subject: [6206] RE: 8044ABM chips found

Message-ID: <2.2.16.19961211160436.34ef1bbc@eloi>

>I don't know if another dedicated-purpose keyer chip with such low power
>consumption will be made again, so I was happy to find them.

>

There are at least three good alternatives available for the old Curtis chips -- which, by the way, have a "bug" that drops the keying line momentarily on power-up. The new keyer chips that I know about are available from Radio Adventures, Embedded Research, and something called the "Atomic Keyer". All these folks have web sites -- check for links from the QRP-L and NorCal web sites. The new chips are cheaper, use less power and fewer external parts than the old Curtis chips -- and they don't key your rig on power-up!

72, Larry W1HUE/7

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996

From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>

Subject: [6185] Re: a few radio lessons

Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.961211071535.15001H-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

On Tue, 10 Dec 1996, AE0Q / V31RY wrote:

> At 22:07 09-12-96 -0500, you wrote:
> >How about one of you real tech. guys start a thread about building a radio.
> >start off say with a 40 meter rx start off by explaining the front end and
> >the math used to build the front end, explain the why's and how's to
> >building. maybe one of you guys could pick a design and start from front to
> >back
>
> Paul NA5N has already done just that!! It was first run as a multi-part
> article in the Colo QRP Club newsletter, the Low Down, and the whole thing
> is now included in his book,
>
> The Electronic Data Book for Homebrewers and QRPers
>
> available from Five Watt Press.. You can get info about ordering a copy
> from qrpbook@aol.com..

Let me add that Paul has continued his writing in Low Down, the bi-monthly publication of the Colorado QRP Club. He is working on something for the next issue that Rich High says is well worth waiting for, and with Paul's incisive organization and clear explanations, I know--sight unseen--it is worth waiting for.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: 11-Dec-1996 0726 <randolph@asic.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [6188] re: a few radio lessons
Message-ID: <9612111242.AA14216@us4rnc.pko.dec.com>

Wow... a rather overwhelming number of folks e-mailed their YES replies!
It seems many of you have had that same dream of designing and building a radio from scratch.
I'll start posting as I get the time to type it up. You might see some significant pauses, as we are pouring the foundation for our new house today or tomorrow.
I'll post under the header N100Q RX. I'll include as much detail as I can. Let me warn you that there will be some hand waving... some of my circuits are designed according to apps notes or textbooks, and i don't really know all the details behind their information...

=====

Tom Randolph N100Q NE-QRP 419 QRP-L 87 ARRL randolph@asic.enet.dec.com
=====

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "Chuck (Jack) Hawley" <c-hawley@uiuc.edu>
Subject: [6159] Re: ANC-4 Preliminary report (long)
Message-ID: <32AE144F.32ED@uiuc.edu>

Marcus Leatham wrote:

>
> In message "Re: ANC-4 Preliminary report (long)",
> 'stan@cruzio.com' writes:
>
> >
> >Because the rx ant is split into 2 inputs, expect about a 3 db rx only loss.
> >Thats not bad if your lowering noise 10-50 db (or whatever the loss reduction
> >will be).
> >
> >Stan N6XU (ex n6ulu)
> >
>
> I wonder how long it will be until the rig manufacturers
> build antenna noise cancellers right into the rig?
> Lots of rigs already have a connector and switch for A/B
> receive antennas. All that is needed is to provide an
> A+B position (summing the two signals), with amplitude and
> phase adjustments on the 'B' input.
>
> Another scathingly brilliant idea I won't get paid for.
>
> Regards,
> Marcus, KR5N

And as usual this was done 40 years ago by Collins. That's why nobody
wants to pay for it again.

Chuck, KE9UW

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [6186] Re: Banning
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.961211072608.15001I-1000000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

On 11 Dec 1996, Dan Keen wrote:

> sri in advance to all, maybe too much XMAS wine, but here goes...
>
> > I started the group but like a child it has grown and continues to grow...
> > dit dit de QRP-L #1 SIG Chuck Adams
>
> So a young fellow who has become a ham from reading this list might write:
> "How I became a ham was because of my DAH DAH dit dit".
>
Hope that "Z" was not snoring.

LB

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Alan Kaul <kaul@netcom.com>
Subject: [6181] Re: CB to 10 Meter Conversions in "73 Amateur Radio"
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9612110041.A9978-0100000@netcom4>

William::: I'm not in Peterborough, but I can tell you I wrote the first conversion article in the May '77 issue. And I recall that same issue also carried the ''band plan.'' The first conversion article was for a 23-channel AM rig I bought at JC PENNEY's for \$29!! At about the same time, several others (led by W6IRT) in the San Fernando Valley of California were converting ''Publicom'' rigs which were being sold for the same price by Leo's Stereo in the Los Angeles area. Later, I also converted the Lafayette SSB rig and used it for several years mobile.

In fact, a little QRP history.... Norm, W6IRT, founded the QRP Chapter of 10-10 International back in 1976-77 and we held a weekly net on 10m AM. Even though we met at 8pm local time, we occasionally had check ins from the South Pacific and Asia!

In 1978, I submitted a Petition for Rulemaking to the FCC which would have made 28.4mHz-to-28.5mHz a low-power-only AM segment of 10-Meters. The FCC turned it down!!!

73/72 de alan

[<Alan Kaul, W6RCL>] kaul@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Bill Howell <bhowell@mail.utexas.edu>
Subject: [6225] RE:computer power supply
Message-ID: <199612111845.MAA08998@mail.utexas.edu>

Brian,
Just a note....
Sometimes these switching supplies won't put out voltage
unless they are hooked up to a LOAD.
(If you put your voltmeter on the outputs you may not read anything).

Don't know what G.P. stands for.

"I recently acquired a computer power supply because it had an noisy fan
and the computer was still under warranty and it was cheaper to replace
the power supply than to fix the fan.

It looks like a good power supply for QRP. It puts out -5V +5V -12V and
+12V at various amp ratings. There is also a wire labeled G.P.

Is there any reason why I could not use such a power supply for ham work?
Also what does G.P. stand for?

Thanks in advance.

Brian."

Bill Howell
University of Texas at Austin
Performing Arts Center
Electronic Maintenance
voice: (512) 471-1388
bhowell@mail.utexas.edu
N5ALO QRP-L #415

everything is sacred
nothing is serious

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "Marcus Leatham" <leatham@nortel.ca>
Subject: [6165] Re: Farnell, and Pelican cases
Message-ID: <199612110334.WAA273113@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Tom:

Cheaper Than Dirt
2536 NE Loop 820
Fort Worth, TX 76106-1809

Voice phone: 1-817-625-7557
FAX orders: 1-800-596-5655

I'm sure they wouldn't mind if you
FAXed them a request for a catalog.

Their current 'Winter 1996' catalog has the Pelican
boxes on p. 21:

52" L X 17.5" W X 6" D Travel Vault (for 2 long guns)
with fold down handle and wheels -- \$169.97

18.5" L X 15.25" W X 6.875" D accessory case -- \$89.97

There are plenty of other sizes, but that's all CTD has.
Compare prices - I'll bet CTD beats them all if you can
use what they have in stock.

Regards,
Marcus KR5N

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "J. Skalski" <jskalski@acsu.buffalo.edu>
Subject: [6157] Re: FS misc superfluous stuff
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.3.93.961210200802.1417C-100000@autarch.acsu.buffalo.edu>

The following plus some additions remain.

SCAF filter complete \$33 shipped

MUX terminal best offer

Super CMOS III keyer built, no case includes push buttons (to match KC2)
speed pot/knob RS piezo speaker mod (low current) , jacks for paddle
in and transmitter out 3xAA battery holders (was mounted in rig
\$58 shipped

2m fm amp for handheld 2w in 30w+ out \$40

Butternut HF2V (needs 1.25"OD 1.125"ID X 18" base section available at
hardware store Pick up \$25. (not new) with manual

WYSE model #30 dumb terminal with keyboard excellent CRT
useful for packet

Jim N2G0

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: ka7you@juno.com
Subject: [6231] Re: Getting Started
Message-ID: <19961211.154523.4583.8.ka7you@juno.com>

Craig,

My first advice is to join a club in the area, and let them know you want to get on the air. Many clubs have "loaner" equipment to allow you to 'get hooked' before spending much money. There will be some awkward moments no doubt, because there are always a few rough spots when trying to blend into a new group, but if you attend three meetings in a row, and ask a few questions about how to decide which antenna is best for your pocket book and location (take a diagram of your location with some rough dimentions as an aide) and how to put put up an antenna, and generally appear interested, I am sure that you will get the help you need. Most clubs have group that will help you string wires up into trees and help you get on the air.

As for equipment, the expense can be a tough hurdle, but for under \$100 you can have a good "new" single band transceiver from several sources. It will be a kit that you will have to put together, but it will work well when finished. If you get something like that started and then have trouble with it, the manufacturer may be able to help, or the club members may be able to help also. You just need to ask, like you've done here.

Don't be afraid of the QRP label, with a dipole antenna and a few watts of power, you can work many stations! If you can't get a 65 foot long dipole up at your location, let the ends hand down some and support

the longest part of the middle of the dipole as high as you can get it; or just get one end high and let it be a sloping dipole. You will get out, and you will be able to make contacts. You can use a random length wire, or a vertical also. Many of the FOX stations are using a vertical antenna at times.

If you have any specific questions, feel free to drop me a note. I'll do my best to answer them.

7 3,

Rod KA7YOU CN97AK 160M through 1296MHz + 3456MHz NWQRP#120 QRP-L#844

On Wed, 11 Dec 96 13:59:12 CST "Craig O. Smith" <CSMITH@CMSUVMB.CMSU.EDU> writes:

>Hello to all!

>

>I have been parusing the "MASS" amounts of mail that I receive daily
>from this server, and I have come to one conclusion.... I've got the
>bug!!

>I only have one problem.. or maybe several...depends on who you ask..

>I need someone to tell me what I need to get started. Such as what

>Rig?

>Kit? Antenna type? and so on... I currently hold a Tech+ ticket and
>have yet to make my first contact on CW. I tried during last summers
>Field Day to no avail... So if anyone would be willing to take a few
>minutes,, and do the "ELMER" thing and take me by the hand.. I would
>appreciate it.. Also keep in mind my funds are limited.. TIA.

>

>73's Craig/KB0VRS Warrensburg, Mo.

>

>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996

From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>

Subject: [6194] Re: How I became a Ham. (Long)

Message-ID: <199612111410.HAA13888@dancris.com>

At 07:06 AM 12/11/96 -0500, you wrote:

>Just to add to the thread,

>I was impressed but just had not been truly bitten by the Ham bug yet. That was
>done during the Military Operation("Provide Comfort") which assisted the
>Kurds in Northeren Irag after the Gulf War. My tent partner was Mark G.
>Besch NS1V and he had brought along his rig and was working DX on a sloping
>Dipole. This was also my first experience hearing a pileup! It was quite a
>rush!. During the 3 months that we were there a friend of Marks, Paul
>Bolduc in Nashua , (sri I don't have his callsign) arranged for several
>copies of "Now you're Talking" and Test manuals for Novice and General to

>be delievered to us in the fields of Southern Turkey. After that it was
>just a matter of time. I tested at Wiesbaden Germany in Jul 1994. Novice,
>Tech & General in one session and became KB2RLB. My DL call came later,
>DA2TF. I really love this hoppy and being apart of such a great and
>diverse bunch of guys and gals.

Now tell me that this thread isn't interesting! Most of us don't have such
exotic locales in ours, but nonetheless, they are all interesting, and go a
long way to revealing why the ham community is so diverse.

73,

Bob KI7MN

NorCal #1221 ARCI #8918 Qrp-1 #271 CQC #274 AK QRP #30 ARRL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996

From: ka7you@juno.com

Subject: [6228] Re:How I got Into Ham Radio(Long)

Message-ID: <19961211.142012.4583.4.ka7you@juno.com>

I guess it was about 1952 or 53, when I was 8 or 9 years old. I was
traveling from Seattle to Disneyland with my cousins family. We stopped
in a town in northern California to stay with some shirt-tail
relatives. Their son (about 14 I'd guess) was a young ham. He had a
shiny Hallicrafters receiver,(like a SX100 or 101) the kind with the two
big semi-circular dials,and lots of chrome! They had to drag me away
from it at 4AM I understand.

Later that summer, I discovered the neighbor had an old Zenith
floor-model radio with the short wave bands on it. I got to listen to it
a few times, but without an external antenna, reception was very poor.
Somewhere along the line I was given a table radio with shortwave
capability, and I spent hours listening to various stations. I never
once heard about SWL cards and the like.

The summer that I turned thirteen, I found a large transistor radio
that had some sw bands on it, and took it to the ocean on a camping trip.

I stretched out 30 to 40 feet of wire for an antenna, and listened to
far away stations well into the night. I didn't understand why I could
hear so much more at the beach, than at home. Funny thing though, It
seemed like the radio was working a lot better there. The stations that
I usually heard at home were much louder and easier to hear from this
beach location-humm.

By the time I arrived at High school, I was fixing five-tube radios
(tubes and/or a filter cap) and an occasional TV set (tubes only) for my
friends. The local tube tester and tube merchant was always happy to
see me.

Our high school had an electronics class, but I never got to take

it. However I did hang out there a lot. The instructor was interested in ham radio but never had a license. I was told the school had some Civil Defense equipment in a room upstairs and we were allowed to listen to the receiver. I couldn't get up there fast enough. I opened the cabinet, and there was a National NC-183D, and a Harvey Wells Band-Master transmitter! The first spool of magnet wire I spotted became the antenna as I tossed the spool through the open rafters of the building.

In 1962 I got my first license (KN7VRR), and for some reason I don't remember where I took the test. I don't remember sending any code or anything about the exam. I bought a used BC-348 receiver, and built a transmitter, mostly out of an old TV set, from plans in a CQ Magazine. As a result my high school grades started to suffer.

Also about this time, the high school allowed us to form an Amateur Radio Club, and we decided to earn some money for our own equipment. We bought donuts from a local bakery and made coffee. We sold the coffee and donuts to the students at the Adult Education evening classes at the school two night per week. This was very lucrative, for we financed a Heathkit DX-100 kit, and a Hygain 40Meter beam, rotor and tripod base. We worked in shifts to get the DX-100 built, and It worked great the first try. (It wasn't our first kit, the school shop was all Heathkit gear that the students built). The school maintenance department put the antenna and tripod up on the roof of our shop building, and we were on 40 meters in a big way!

Well, I sold the BC-348 and bought a used National NC-98 with a Heath Q-multiplier (never did figure out how to use that thing), and then my novice ticket expired. Since I was not even close to 13 WPM on the code, I was forced off the air

That didn't stop me from finishing a Science Fair project. I had decided to build a TV Transmitter from plans in the CQ magazine. It used a 931A photomultiplier tube, for the video signal input, and a 6J6 tube for the 420 MHz +/- RF output, and I stress the +/- . The 931A picked up the raster pattern from a blank TV screen which was written upon with a grease pencil. It then transmitted the pattern to the next room where a re-tuned UHF TV set picked it up and displayed the picture. I think it was supposed to be below channel 14 more or less. So for a few days I was actually transmitting an illegal TV Picture due to my expired license. I still have that TV transmitter, and magazine.

I joined the Navy in 1964 and became a submarine electronics technician and passed the written exams through second class strictly on my ham knowledge and the navy correspondence courses. The Navy never sent me to ET school. As a result I became disenchanted with the Navy, and got out at the first opportunity.

Skip to the seventies, and CB's. I was actively participating in, and organizing, automobile rallies. CB's were a great help in keeping track of everybody while checking a proposed course for errors. Prior to CB's, spending an hour several times while waiting for a lost official to show up was not unusual. I got back into radio via the CB route, but never was interested in the 'skip' or more power. I actually used it for

it's intended purpose and had a license.

In 1984 I think, I was working as an official for a nationally sanctioned automobile rally, and was given a ham (Roy N7BXI) as a communicator. HE WAS USING A 'LITTLE' HANDHELD RADIO, WITH A 6 INCH RUBBER WHIP, AND WAS FAR EXCEEDING THE RANGE OF MY CB!!!! He was talking to people for fifty miles around like they were at the other end of the parking lot. I had to know more! He explained that this was 2M, and that he was going through a repeater.

Later, I was talking to another ham, and when I told him that I had a novice callsign once, he offered to give me an old code tape and a study guide. The basic code came back very quickly and I had passed the exam for the current call in three weeks. One month later I became a technician and in 1988 I finally passed the 13 WPM code test and got my advanced ticket.

I'm still involved with the automobile rallies, and have taken ham radio with me to many places including the Arctic Circle in February to support a long distance rally, and in fact about one half of the members of the Ranier Auto Sports Club (Bellevue, Washington) are also licensed hams. It is just another of the many ways that ham radio is behind the scenes of so many of our daily activities.

7 3,

Rod KA7YOU CN97AK 160M through 1296MHz + 3456MHz NWQRP#120 QRP-L#844

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996

From: talljazz@teleport.com (Dan Presley)

Subject: [6234] Re: Miscellaneous Ramblings

Message-ID: <v0153050eaed4a733e816@[206.163.124.155]>

Pat(& others)-I'm glad that you are concerned about what the League is doing, yet I'm willing to defer to them on this type of decision. It's not an attempt to end code practice, or "dis" CW, or end W1AW transmissions, Their explanation is very reasonable, and you might trust a little bit in their decision-making. I elect my representative & pay my dues to help run the League and deal with such issues. Not every issue needs my vote-I'll save my energy for the big ones. It's sad to see some folks (not you, Pat) trashing the League instead of getting involved-it seems to be the "hip thing" to trash any well established organization or governmental body simply because people are frustrated in their lives. These groups make easy targets, and the damage goes deep, forcing those on the sidelines to "wash their hands" instead of getting involved and making things better.

There!-I feel better! Off to 7040-

Dan N7CQR

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)
Subject: [6171] Re: QRP Computer
Message-ID: <199612110414.UAA05544@netcom3.netcom.com>

>A few (several?) weeks ago, someone posted a note about the pocket computer
>he was using to do logging, store info, skeds, freqs, etc. I don't remember
>who posted it but I'd appreciate hearing from him. I'm thinking of asking
>Santa for something like that and it sounded like a pretty nifty little
>unit. So, if the person who posted the original would drop me a line, I'd
>appreciate it, or if someone else could point me toward the relevant
>archive, that would be appreciated too.

Well, if you define "qrp" as compact, power efficient, minimal to do the
job, etc etc etc then I have to nominate the Hewlett Packard Omnibook 300,
which isn't quite pocket sized, but does everything someone would need and
runs off four AA cells if need be. I always kinda thought of it as a
"qrp computer"...

73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: wylde@nccn.net (Grover Cleveland, K7TP)
Subject: [6199] Re: QRP Computer
Message-ID: <v02130500aed483ab8c91@[205.139.74.198]>

>A few (several?) weeks ago, someone posted a note about the pocket computer
>he was using to do logging, store info, skeds, freqs, etc. I don't remember
>who posted it but I'd appreciate hearing from him. I'm thinking of asking
>Santa for something like that and it sounded like a pretty nifty little
>unit. So, if the person who posted the original would drop me a line, I'd
>appreciate it, or if someone else could point me toward the relevant
>archive, that would be appreciated too.

>

A while back I posted some comments about my "qrp" computer which I use for
logging, contest keying, packet, etc. It is a Psion 3a. Runs for a month on
2 AA batteries. Superb!

73

Grover
K7TP

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Reitz_G@mediasoft.net
Subject: [6217] RE:Qrp in box
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19961211165031.00669e08@mediasoft.net>

Tin foil and glue to line thr box may help

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: kd1jv@juno.com (Steven Weber)
Subject: [6213] Re: QRP rig in tool box
Message-ID: <19961211.123733.7591.4.KD1JV@juno.com>

>The essential problem with plastic boxes of any kind is you
>practically have to build a metal box inside to eliminate the
effects....

Hi Bruce,

This is very true. I think most everyone understands that. We all or
should know that the rig and tuner should be in thier own shielded box.
The tool box would be more of an over all enclosuer, to put a discrete,
sheilded rig into. You could make a plate to mount the rig and tuner on
and place that into the box. My idea was just that the tool box would be
a neat, cheap, sturdy way of carrying around all the stuff you need.

Apparently there are a few QRPers out there that are indeed using a tool
box in this way, but use it simply as a carrying case for the rig and
accessorys. You can go one step further and mount the stuff inside the
tool box....

de KD1JV Steve in NH.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "duane" <duane@flinet.com>
Subject: [6177] Re: Radio Building Seminar
Message-ID: <199612110546.AAA23883@shell.flinet.com>

Bruce thats fine but I for one don't know where the class is, second it

could serve only a limited number and only those who live close at hand. My request for the online study still stands ref. thread "a few radio lessons".

Duane AB4BE

<http://www.flinet.com/~duane>

duane@flinet.com

ab4be@amsat.org

> From: bruce muscolino <w6toy@pop.erols.com>
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
> Subject: Radio Building Seminar
> Date: Tuesday, December 10, 1996 10:54 PM
>
> Gang,
>
> I've followed, and commented on, the thread currently running about
> designing and building radios. As you probably know I'm the technical
> chairman of FDI, Four Days In May, the premier QRP technical event of
> this
> and any year. I am planning to run a seminar on schematic/circuit layout
> software one evening, given that I can guarantee at least 6 to 10
> attendees.
> There may be an extra charge. Now, how about this idea...
>
> On Friday morning, maybe, have one of our QRP manufacturers come in for
> say,
> 3 to 4 hours, and run a class in building radios. He'd use either one of
> his transceiver kits or a receiver kit. You'd pay for the kit and the
> seminar would be free. At the end of the seminar you'd have a complete
> working radio. I think this can be done in a four hour period. Also,
> you'd
> have the designer/manufacture available the entire four days to answer
> questions about your rig. I'd need at least 6 participants. You'd have
> to
> pay in advance, etc. Can I get a show of hands? Actual confirmed
> attendance?
>
> Thanks, and 73,
> --
> Bruce -- W6TOY/3
> Still QRP, Really! (c)
>
>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Office <w2nra@netusa.net>
Subject: [6207] Re: RCP-2
Message-ID: <32AF04D6.709F@netusa.net>

Robert T. Cronau Jr. wrote:

>
> I downloaded the program RCP-2 for control of Knwd TS 570 D. It is in
> compressed form and a note said that I needed the file HAM30.com to
> decompress or open the RCP-2 program. Can someone tell me where to find
> that file? Thank you
>
> Bob,N4EHL

I downloaded that program myself. I used pkunzip to unzip it. You then need to transfer it to floppies and install from the floppies. There is an instruction file at the site where you downloaded RCP2 from. Load all of the files that will fit, in the order they unzip, on the first disk. Then copy the rest onto the second disk. You then have to copy the last file on the first disk to the second disk. Keep in mind that there are 2 files named RCP95.in_ when you unzip. I renamed the second to RCP95.in- during unzip and then renamed it back to RCP95.in_ in floppy disk 2. I don't know if this is necessary but that's what I did and it worked. The program works great! It's my radio that's broke and back a Kenwood for repair.

Good luck es 72, de Art

--

Art Searle, W2NRA [ex WU2K], ARRL Life Member, QRP-L #524
QRP ARCI #9123, DXCC MX & CW HR, NRA Benefactor Life Member
NRA Certified Firearms Instructor, Fight for your rights!
Join the NRA now! NRA website <http://www.nra.org/>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [6221] Re: To post or not to post
Message-ID: <199612111849.SAA14469@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Just saw the posting from Laura.

OK, listen up all you who want to be net police. Cease and desist all such activity. It does not do any good at all.

If anyone in this group is continually hounded by such activities let me know. I will handle the situation and will invoke the zero tolerance policy.

Now, I'm not against disagreements per se. I am against aggressive and abusive behaviour to another member of the group. You can give your reasons for not supporting why one rig is better than another, why you should operate this or that, antennas, wx, etc. No problem. But to be mean and nasty about it is not allowed at all. I am saying that QRP and ham related posts, including bio's, are allowed. Whether they may or may not be deemed necessary or apropos is not up to the network police. I'll send email (in a nice manner) when flame wars etc. get started.

I feel like the story of the little boy in Holland at the dam stopping a little bitty leak hoping that the whole ocean doesn't come rushing in. Everybody take the rest of the day off and take a chill pill. Be cool. We start a thread on this topic and we will consume another megabyte of disk space in the archives. We got better things to do like design a receiver from scratch, etc.

Those of you who are newbies, rest assured that this is not usual for this group, it's just bad timing.

FYI

SIG

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) WAS 40m/30m/20m=49/49/50

EMPS QS0s=109 STATES(w/c)=34/2 DX=0

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996

From: Ed Tanton <n4xy@avana.net>

Subject: [6229] Re: To post or not to post

Message-ID: <3.0.32.19961211162050.00930620@tiger.avana.net>

Once again Chuck you are ABSOLUTELY right. Excellent policies. Keep it up!!!
72/73

Ed Tanton N4XY EMAIL: n4xy@avana.net TEL: (770)579-3933 V/MBX/FAX
189 Pioneer Trail, Marietta, GA 30068-3466

QRP-ARCI#7663 G-QRP#6779 OK-QRP#172 QRP-L#758 AdvRC#140
NORCAL#1779 NCDXF SEDXC

Life Member: ARRL AMSAT IDRA INDEXA QCWA URL: Coming Soon

"Think you can, think you can't: either way you're right!" Henry Ford

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Kevin Muenzler <muenzlerk@uthscsa.edu>
Subject: [6204] RE: Unintentional QRP
Message-ID: <01BBE748.70813C80@muenzlerk.uthscsa.edu>

On Wednesday, December 11, 1996 8:43 AM, Timothy R.
Gordish[SMTP:105020.2634@CompuServe.COM] wrote:

>Gang,

>

>Got on 40m SSB today for the first time since my recent upgrade to General.
> Got a 58 signal in LA aboard the Queen Mary when I checked into the "Fish"
>net. They were real friendly. After making the contact I noticed that I
>had left the Mic Gain turned down to the position that puts out 5 watts on
>CW. I'm not sure if this means that I was only using 5w SSB, but I bet I
>was unintentionally QRP!

>

>Anything goes:^^)

>

>73 de Tim

>KB9LGJ Yuma AZ

>

>

I've done stuff like that before. My FT-890 has a built-in antenna tuner.
I back the power way down when I manually start the tuner. It
is recommended because of the bad mismatches that can occur while the
tuner is "thinking." Many times I've forgotten to turn the power back
up for the QSO. I remember getting a 579 from Spain on 15 meters using
only about 5 watts.

Kevin, WB5RUE

Linears? We don't need no steenking linears!

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [6216] Re: Unintentional QRP
Message-ID: <961211124846_1652393082@emout06.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-12-11 09:58:31 EST, 105020.2634@CompuServe.COM (Timothy
R. Gordish) writes:

>Gang,
>
>Got on 40m SSB today for the first time since my recent upgrade to General.
> Got a 58 signal in LA aboard the Queen Mary when I checked into the "Fish"
>net. They were real friendly. After making the contact I noticed that I
>had left the Mic Gain turned down to the position that puts out 5 watts on
>CW. I'm not sure if this means that I was only using 5w SSB, but I bet I
>was unintentionally QRP!
>
>Anything goes:^^)
>
>73 de Tim
>KB9LGJ Yuma AZ

My own unintentional QRP story is:

Fours ago, I operated a VHF-to-HF packet radio gateway.
(For the digitally impaired, a packet gateway allows those with only VHF
packet to connect to a gateway to go keyboard/keyboard, node hop or BBS with
a packet station on HF... the gateway consists of a tnc such as a KAM, HF
radio and VHF radio, computer not needed if the op is away)
Our gateway was on the 18.105 Mhz packet channel.
After a QRP-CW QSO, I neglected to turn the power back up and our gateway was
working nicely at five watts for a month on 17 meters!

73, Jay W6CJ

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Peter Barville <peter@barville.demon.co.uk>
Subject: [6227] Re: Unintentional QRP
Message-ID: <lasRBRA9WxryEw8g@barville.demon.co.uk>

>My FT-890 has a built-in antenna tuner.
>I back the power way down when I manually start the tuner. It
>is recommended because of the bad mismatches that can occur while the
>tuner is "thinking." Many times I've forgotten to turn the power back
>up for the QSO. I remember getting a 579 from Spain on 15 meters using
>only about 5 watts.
So why turn the power back up?!

My FT-890 runs arround one or two watts cw with the power control at its
minimum setting.

72

--

Peter G3XJS

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Bensondj@aol.com
Subject: [6163] Re: VFO ramblings
Message-ID: <961210215700_1555489411@emout13.mail.aol.com>

>>Subject: [6149] VFO Ramblings (LONG)

Bill- Great post! You've provided some good insights into one of the most exciting new facets of QRP and homebrewing. I believe we're going to see a lot of new PIC homebrew applications over the next year or two.

>>0) Use a PIC microcontroller instead of all those discrete logic chips. I like hardware but

Absolutely right! A good way to save a lot of hardware complexity.

>>3) Following Wayne Burdick's suggestion to a previous thread, let's use one of the PWM's in the PIC followed by an integrator for the control voltage rather than a traditional D/A -- less noise from the lack of discrete steps for the D/A output.

I'd posted a similar comment to the QRP-L after the last time the subject came up. I'll make a couple of observations: The frequency correction signal needs to be proportional to error. This way, the loop can keep up with cold-start drift, yet the corrections are small enough at stabilization as to be non-discernable as beat-note variations. If you build your own PWM function, you can also drive the integrator with up/down pulses of various widths, corresponding to various tuning step sizes. This corresponds to a QSY condition, so the loop needs to be re-initialized at the new frequency.

(BTW- coding your own PWM eliminates the need to specify one of the high pin-count PIC chips.)

>>4) However, the fine-tuning function would likely require a shorter time constant for the intergrator following the D/A than stabilization only. No sweat - the all-hardware solution detected when tuning was going on and opened the stabilization loop entirely. In my proposal, we'd just shorten the time constant by switching a resistor in or out of the integrator (actually that's just our old friend the RC lowpass filter) instead of switching out the correction voltage entirely.

I'll suggest the following:

Since the PIC outputs are tri-statable, you can use a fairly short time constant (on the order of 1 second) and use narrow pulses out of the PIC to

drive the integrator up or down for closed-loop correction. By following the integrator with a hi-Z buffer the integrator itself has an extremely long effective time constant, yet can be stepped rapidly with wide pulses. This new configuration is simply a sample & hold network.

>>5) Since we've gone to all this trouble to get rid of the air
>>variable, let's get rid of the slotted wheel that detects tuning too.
>>Instead, we'll just use one of the "bi-phase" shaft encoders DigiKey
>>sells. Those interface directly to the PIC and the pattern of
>>signals on the *two* channels tells us which way the encoder is
>>turning.

They work fine. As you've noted, this is a good source of signals for commanding frequency changes. They're a bit "dirty" as to contact bounce, though, so expect to be undertaking software and /or hardware tricks to ensure reliable operation at a variety of rotation rates.

There's no one tuning step size that's good for all occasions. For the commonly-available encoders (24 steps/revolution) a fine-tuning step of say 20 Hz will yield only 480 Hz/ revolution of frequency change- much too slow. At least two step sizes are required to provide good fine tuning, yet permit fairly rapid QSY.

>>Whatcha think folks? Did I dream up a good high-performance VFO or
>>are there major fallacies in my thinking? Either way, let's discuss
>>this ON THE LIST (not via private e-mail) and all learn from it.

You're not dreaming alone- you might realistically expect this scheme to be a standard building-block in a number of QRP projects . :- I've come "out of the closet" on PIC Huf'n Puf's with this posting, so I don't mind saying I could plan to offer a small (1 x 1.5") board with these features in the near future. I'd welcome comments and a show of interest if folks would like to see this.

73, Dave- NN1G
(Small Wonder Labs)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [6183] Re: VFOs

Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.961211064209.15001B-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

ASCFRN.

I have had a couple of requests for information on how to subscribe to Communications Quarterly. The following information may be of general interest.

To subscribe to Com Quart, send your request to the business offices of the parent company:

CQ Communications
76 North Broadway
Hicksville, NY 11801

or phone 516-682-2922

Rates for Com Quart are (for US subscriptions) \$34/1 year or \$65/2 years.

Partial contents for the Fall, 1996, issue include
Boundary Scan Technology by NU1N
IF and 80 dB Log Amp for Spectrum Scanners by K1ZJH
A Stable Oscillator by W2GOM
Antennae Exotica by NI1R
>From J to a Zepp by N3GO
Basic Synthesizers and How They Work by G3YWX

This will give some taste for the span of interests and levels of technical information covered by Com Quart.

If you have a submission, letter, etc., send it to the Editor, Terry Littlefield, KA1STC; P.O. Box 465; Barrington, NH 03825.

I hope this information is of use to some of our number.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Mike Boice <kd0fx@worldnet.att.net>
Subject: [6175] Re: Voice on WARC bands?
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19961211052353.00666458@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>

At 09:58 PM 12/10/96 +0000, chuck adams wrote:

>This from the ARRL handbook(s).

I guess this is just another reason to update my Handbook collection - mine is from 1982, and makes no mention of WARC. Thanks to all who so promptly responded. Now if there was just enough activity on 17 for me to get a contact.....it's usually pretty darn quiet up in this corner of the country.

73,
mike KD0FX
Richland WA

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [6214] Re: Voice on WARC bands?
Message-ID: <961211123330_1120257775@emout04.mail.aol.com>

Hi all,

Voice is not allowed for US hams on 10.100-10.150, and probably in most other nations as well..international radio treaty y'know. I've heard some obviously non-military, non-ham and non-professional SSB traffic there over the years though. Most of the bootleg traffic was in Spanish and another language I could not identify (too weak) which was reminiscent of CB. By far the foulest pirates were two strong signals (USB) on 10.150, these were speaking in English and every alternate word was of the four-letter variety.

By the jargon, topics and accents, one was off the US West coast on medium sized craft doing who knows what.

But back to our thread..

Voice is allowed in the 18.068-18.168 and 29.89-24.99 MHz bands.

CW and DATA (Packet, RTTY, TOR) are allowed in all three bands.

(Nice to see interest in these bands... It ain't just 80-40-20-15-10 anymore)

73, Jay
W6CJ

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Scott Cranston <cranston@zk3.dec.com>
Subject: [6191] Re: W1AW ARRL Code Practice
Message-ID: <9612111329.AA20581@alpha.zk3.dec.com>

Jeez.... There are plenty of other sources of CW practice available to fill the void... ARRL code practice cassette tapes, the new ARRL code practice audio CDRom, the W5YI code practice cassette tapes, various PC, Mac and C64 computer programs... and there are plenty of other CW signals on the bands to be copied. Yes, there will be a few people who have no cassette and/or cdrom player and/or no computer and/or a radio that is only capable of receiving W1AW that will miss several minutes of code practice a couple days a week.

Lets please move on to other QRP related topics.

Scott,
KB1NW

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "Claton Cadmus" <aplitech@Spacestar.Net>
Subject: [6153] Re: W1AW Code Transmissions
Message-ID: <199612110029.SAA20893@Spacestar.Net>

Dear Dave,

Thank you so much for your quick reply. I do appreciate it. You wrote:

> Dear Claton:
>
> Thank you for your comments.
>
> Faced with a substantial budget shortfall we've looked hard for ways to
> economize without reducing the services that members actually use. We
> determined that the morning code practice is relatively lightly used.
> Reducing the transmissions from four to two mornings per week allows us
> to
> save on staffing. We regret any inconvenience to those who actually use
> these transmissions, but the service will still be available to them two

> mornings per week.

> 73,
> David Sumner, K1ZZ
> ARRL HQ

I believe this decision needs major reconsideration. Code practice needs to be available on a daily or at least every other day basis to be effective. It simply doesn't cost that much to continue the additional two

code practice sessions per week, or even increase them. This reduction in schedule effectively cuts code practice sessions off from anyone who works second shift. Although I can understand that the morning sessions are less popular, I wonder if any thought was given into who uses them and the period of time your demographics were collected. When school isn't in session I would think these times would be the very popular for students. The very group with which we need to encourage the most and the future of Amateur Radio!

I understand budget pressures very well. Saving a few hours of labor per month will not produce anywhere close to the savings of reducing the cost of QST a few pennies per issue over the budget year. Perhaps producing one issue without color printing would save the code practice and CW bulletins. It would also be a good way to inform the membership of the budget difficulties.

Thank you again for your reply and your consideration.

Claton Cadmus |73 de KA0GKC
Application Technologies Inc. |ARRL, QRP-ARCI, NorCal
Ph. (612)926-8886 |ARCC, MNQRP Society
Fax (612)926-8545 |ka0gkc@ka0gkc.ampr.org
E-mail cla@spacestar.net |ka0gkc@wb0gdb.#stp.mn.us

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: Bob Hirsch <bobh@p3.net>
Subject: [6237] Re: Wed.Fox?
Message-ID: <3.0.32.19961211185734.0068c404@p3.net>

At 15:52 12.11.96 -0800, you wrote:

>Am I asleep at the switch, or is there supposed to be a fox on tonight
>(0300-500UTC 12/12) local date Dec.11? Was there a post on here about a
>change in date?
>Dan N7CQR
>

If you are sleeping, so am I Dan. I just checked my schedule and I have the same question.

So, Cam, where are you? You running like a fox tonight?

=====
73 de Bob, W3WZ in New Hope, PA

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: dfirlik@juno.com (Don Firlik)
Subject: [6178] Re: Whoa! ARRL Code Practice-plenty
Message-ID: <19961211.005043.3182.2.dfirlik@juno.com>

On 9 Dec 1996 19:19:48 -0600 "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu> writes:
>All the CW fa-natics, read the entire ARRL letter.

-snip-

> Jeez! --Give the ARRL a break, I like a conspiracy theory as well as
>the
>next person, but this seems a legit scheduling change, and there is
>ample good
>reason to delete two DAY slots, for the vast majority of use of the
>code
>practice is at NIGHT. The folks around all day, are the old retired
>hams who
>probably can already do 20 wpm! :-) Or have forgotten how, and don't
>care
>anyway, [and no flames, I got my AARP card!! :-)]

You are forgetting about all of the people that go to work in the
afternoon and work till midnight. Their only opportunity for W1AW code
practice is in the morning.

72

Don
K8AQZ

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: "KF4MZD (John Kemker)" <kemkerj@xyzzy.net>
Subject: [6172] Re: Zen and the FOX
Message-ID: <9612110431.AA11635@ponyxprs.atlanta.med.va.gov>

On 10 Dec 96 at 12:54, W. Dennis Zeares wrote:
> It has been so long since I have actually heard a
> real FOX that its like ZEN.
>
> As part of a class at SMU, I attended a group session

> at the ZEN center.... sat there and focused on a spot
> on the wall for two hours and heard and said nothing....
>
> Hey thats just like the FOX hunt....sort of... maybe a book..
> Zen and the Art of QRP FOX Hinting...

ZEN Key, Beginner's Key

=====
73 de KF4MZD (John Kemker)
kemkerj@xyzzzy.net
EM73vt

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: albraun@socketis.net
Subject: [DX] Sunspot minimum in May 96?

I've been looking at accumulated solar data for the last few months, and it appears that we may have finally passed sunspot minimum. The smoothed (365 day running average) solar flux bottomed out at 71.0 between May 15 and 23, and has been climbing slowly but steadily since then.

A similar average using sunspot numbers instead of flux yields a very similar picture. The smoothed SSN hit bottom at 11.9 on 5/19 and has also been climbing since.

Since the current cycle began in September 1996, this means that cycle 22 has been one of the shorter ones, lasting only 9 years and 8 months.

These numbers are calculated in the following way: for July 1, 1996, for example, the smoothed number is actually the average of all the numbers from January 1 to December 30, 1996 inclusively. Thus it takes a substantial amount of time after the minimum (or maximum) has passed before you can be sure it has actually happened. It has now been just over a month since the last data went into the numbers I've quoted above, so it is at least moderately certain that they are the real McCoy. Let's keep our fingers crossed!

* * * * *
* Alan Braun MD, NS0B/V31EV *Internet: albraun@socketis.net *
* Jefferson City, MO *Packet: NS0B@NOLBA.#cemo.mo.usa.noam *
* * * * *

Forwarded via the Internet DX Mailing List.

Submissions: dx@ve7tcp.ampr.org
Subscribe/unsubscribe requests: dx-REQUEST@ve7tcp.ampr.org
DX info on the Web: <http://ve7tcp.ampr.org/DX/>

-----6E422D7C2E20--

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Dec 11 18:01:44 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [6195] Re: [Fwd: [DX] Sunspot minimum in May 96?]
Message-ID: <199612111430.0AA13594@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Thanks to Alan for the posting of the sunspot info. We need to stay on top of this.

I just went over to the web and looked at the latest H-Alpha image and the sunspot region on the equator that caused the solar flux to significantly come up a few weeks ago is once again visible. Along with two other regions in the southern hemisphere of the sun.

So if you have a ten meter xcvr, QRP of course, and have an antenna system, then you really really outta try for 10M this weekend for the ARRL contest. The info has been posted to this group, so go back through the archives or look at QST for the info. This gives the Novice/Tech+'s a chance to work a contest, either SSB or CW. Now watch it here gang. QRP ARCI defines QRP SSB as 10W PEP. The ARRL defines QRP SSB as 5W peak, period. There is a difference and be sure that you note the difference and not get disqualified from the ARRL contest. About the only way that you can guarantee this is through the use of a scope or a very good peak reading instrument. I guess I like CW because it is easier to electronically generate and easier to measure power levels. You can't ever have my OHR WM-1. :-)

My WWV clock from Heath once again was locked onto 15MHz last night and some people have reported on the tenten mail group that the 10M band was open again last night.

Now the pressure is on for me to get the 17M GM-17 built this week and see how things above 20M are progressing. No, no foxhunts. ;-)
I guess next summer we have to have the WARC bands propagation study WBPS. And do this as the spots come up and monitor the changes both seasonal and long range. I am doing rather poorly on eighty.

Again thanks to Alan for the posting. The internet and the world has grown in the information age and a lot of us don't surf regularly, we don't subscribe to all the news groups, and hopefully we all are getting our reading speeds up (just like code you do it by doing it) as part of keeping up with everything that is going on. As a side effect there is more timely information available, we just gotta get to it.

FYI

SIG

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) WAS 40m/30m/20m=49/49/50

EMPS QS0s=109 STATES(w/c)=34/2 DX=0